



Scavenger

by William Gallagher

THE DOCTOR: COLIN BAKER
Time and space traveller.

FLIP: LISA GREENWOOD
His companion.

SALIM:
(M, 120s-e30s) In 1600 Lahore, Punjab, he is the Crown Prince Salim. In 2071, he's Salim Jahangir: same man, same age, new job. He's Mission Controller at Indian Space Agency.

JESSICA ALLAWAY:
(F, 40s) Fiercely British but with a heavy Scottish accent. Ex-sportswoman, now a Government cheerleader.

JYOTI CUTLER:
(F, 20s) Indian-born astronaut aboard the new International Space Station.

ANARKALI (also MELISSA [TV REPORTER], ISRA TECH #2):
(F, 120s-e30s) The slave girl of legend.

COMMANDER GABBARD (also SCAVENGER, ISRA TECH #1, SECURITY GUY):
(M, 40s) American Commander of the new ISS.

ALSO: PANICKED CROWD [PUNJABI]; TECHNICIANS; MANDELA CREW; TV SOAP ACTORS x 2.

DIRECTOR: NICHOLAS BRIGGS
SCRIPT EDITOR: ALAN BARNES
PRODUCER: DAVID RICHARDSON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: NICHOLAS BRIGGS & JASON HAIGH-ELLERY

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PART ONE

SCENE 1. INT. SPACE STATION MANDELA – OBSERVATION MODULE – 2071

(F/X VERY MODERN, VERY 2001-CLEAN ENVIRONMENT. DOCTOR AND FLIP'S VOICES APPROACHING, MUFFLED BEHIND A BULKHEAD DOOR)

FLIP:

(OFF) Tranquillity, you said! Tranquillity! Not some old space station!

DOCTOR:

(OFF) This is far from "some old" space station, Miss Jackson.—

(F/X BULKHEAD SLIDES OPEN, LETTING THEM IN)

DOCTOR:

Yes, this must be the observation module. Come on.

(F/X BULKHEAD CLOSES BEHIND AS THEY WALK TO LARGE VIEWING PORT)

FLIP:

Oh, right. So which planet are we observing, exactly? Doesn't look like much.

DOCTOR:

Look again, Flip. The large continent, directly below. Doesn't it seem familiar at all?

FLIP:

No, why – ohh yeah, that's India, isn't it? Upside-down India! Hang about, that's not some weird upside-down Earth, is it?

DOCTOR:

This isn't a picture in an atlas, Flip. We're in orbit, so...

FLIP:

... we're the ones upside-down. Alright, I get it. Where are we, then? Is this the International Space Station?

DOCTOR:

It's the Mandela. Properly known as the Nelson Mandela International Space Station.

FLIP:

He must be chuffed. Is this the future, then?

DOCTOR:

Just a little way ahead of your time, yes. (RE VIEW) Look there now, there's Bangalore. Just coming into view.

FLIP:

(BORED) Yeah, well, I'm sure it's very nice.

DOCTOR:

Flip! In your time, only a very few individuals have been privileged enough to take in such an extraordinary view of the entirety of the globe!

FLIP:

Yeah, and there it is. Out there. Where's next?

(DURING THE NEXT LINE: F/X: BULKHEAD DOOR SLIDES OPEN. JYOTI CUTLER ENTERS. SHE'S CARRYING EQUIPMENT.)

DOCTOR:

Look at those lights. Panjim. Goa. I've been meaning to go to the fruit [festival.]

JYOTI:

(ENTERING) I've seen it. It's not all that.

(F/X THE HEAVY DOOR SWISH-SNAPS SHUT. AND LOCKS.)

FLIP:

(TUGGING DOCTOR'S SLEEVE) Doctor. Astronaut person?

JYOTI:

(APPROACHING) Who are you? I thought we didn't have any tourists on board.

DOCTOR:

I'm the Doctor, this is Flip. Can I help you with that camera, at all? (HELPS JYOTI)

JYOTI:

(TO DOCTOR) Well, thanks. But it's my kit, you're not using it.

DOCTOR:

No intention.

FLIP:

Pretend we're not even here.

JYOTI:

Okay. - Only, you are supposed to be, right?

FLIP:

Oh, definitely.

DOCTOR:

Always.

JYOTI:

They never tell me anything. Hi – Jyoti Cutler, payload specialist. Let me at the window, I've got to get all this set up in time.

FLIP:

We'll be quiet. Won't we, Doctor?

(JYOTI SETTING UP CAMERA KIT.)

DOCTOR:

Ah, um, I think –

JYOTI:

Yes?

DOCTOR:

It's just that your camera has a rather long lens and your monopod won't keep it steady enough. And the flash isn't going to be a lot of help, is it?

JYOTI:

Here. If you know so much, feel free. I've got about seven minutes to get a camera focused on grids 32 to 17. Knock yourself out.

DOCTOR:

My pleasure. (HE SNAP-CONNECTS THE KIT TOGETHER THROUGH:)

JYOTI:

They said I could make my film, you'd think they'd give me the time to do it. (TO FLIP) So is this Doctor the sort who needs flattery, or can I leave him to it?

FLIP:

I just let him talk.

DOCTOR:

I am still here, you know.

JYOTI:

You're brilliant, I don't know what I'd have done without you.

FLIP:

What's happening in seven minutes on grid whatever it is?

DOCTOR:

Something called "Clean Up Space 2071".

FLIP:

How do you know that?

DOCTOR:

There's a TV monitor behind you showing a news channel.

SCENE 2: TV NEWS BULLETIN

(A VIDEO KIND OF HUM.)

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

[Melissa] Fletcher, Newshub Nine, taking to Jessica Allaway, who's been brought in as a sort of troubleshooter to fix the Clean Up Space project –

JESSICA:

Never fear, the British are here.

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

People at home and here in India are questioning how qualified you are. Isn't it true you're simply a figurehead?

SCENE 3: INT. MANDELA OBSERVATION MODULE

DOCTOR:

I know that woman, don't I?

FLIP:

Well, do you?

DOCTOR:

Yes, it's her! Jessica... thingy. Nine-seven in the fourth, of course!

JYOTI:

Allaway. Jessica Allaway.

FLIP:

Well, I'm none the wiser.

DOCTOR:

Jessica Allaway, that's it. She won Wimbledon in 2057. It was a great final, as I recall. She beat Roger Borg.

FLIP:

Well, she's not playing tennis now.

JYOTI:

Unmute control is on the side, if you want to hear.

DOCTOR:

Thank you, yes.

(F/X OVER TV MONITOR:)

JESSICA:

(D) ... Beating Roger in the fourth – that'd be a challenge enough for most people, [but not for me.]

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 4: TV NEWS BULLETIN [CONTINUOUS]

(SAME VIDEO-LIKE HUM)

JESSICA:

... but not for me.

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

But surely Clean Up Space is a challenge too far for a cultural ambassador?

JESSICA:

Clean Up Space isn't about me, Melissa. Clean Up Space is about Britain leading the way once more.

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

Providing financial support to the Indian Space Research Agency.

JESSICA:

(PUT OUT) Advising our overseas partners, exactly.

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 5. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL – DAY

(ISRA IS THE INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH AGENCY. JESSICA'S NEWS APPEARANCE IS ON THE BIG MONITOR.)

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

(D) So what are you doing about the cost overruns, exactly?

JESSICA:

(D) All in good time. Now – this is launch day. If you'll excuse me, Ms Fletcher, I've a job to do here. [And it's time I got down to doing it.]

SALIM:

For the love of – (ALOUD) Somebody switch that woman off!

ISRA TECH #1:

Got it.

(THE TV IS SWITCHED OFF)

SALIM:

Thank you! That's how you restore Anglo-Indian relations. Wait, are the radio people recording this? Remember, I want approval. (TO EVERYONE) Right, everyone, all departments, switch headsets to circuit 1. Are we on?

ISRA TECH #2:

Salim, radio wants you to say your name for the recording.

SALIM:

(TO TECH #2) Fair enough. (TO EVERYONE) Indian Space Centre, all departments, I'm Mission Controller Salim Jahangir. And we are getting back to the real job while Britain's ambassador poses on the telly.

SCENE 6. INT. MANDELA – OBSERVATION MODULE

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

(D, ON MONITOR) And with questions about the spiralling cost of this project refusing to go away, we're going back to the newsroom, for live coverage of the launch. Melissa Fletcher, Newshub Nine, [at the]

(F/X JYOTI SWITCHES MONITOR OFF)

FLIP:

Hey, we were watching that!

JYOTI:

Sorry, causes interference. With the camera-?

DOCTOR:

Flip – we don't want to be watching the gogglebox, when we can witness the day's events at first hand!

FLIP:

This Clean Up Space thing?

DOCTOR:

It's an historic day. I just wish Donald could see it with us.

FLIP:

Yeah, I'm not on first-name terms with everyone who's anyone in the universe, you know.

JYOTI:

He means Donald Kessler.

DOCTOR:

Indeed. He predicted this day would come, decades ago.

SCENE 7. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL — DAY

SALIM:

(INTO HEADSET) Nav-con, status check?

ISRA VOICE 1:

(OVER SPEAKER) Nav-con, go.

SALIM:

Flight?

ISRA TECH #2:

Flight, go.

SALIM:

Crosswind could be better. (BEAT) But I'm calling it. Launch.

(CROSS TO:)

SCENE 8. EXT. ISRA — ROCKET PAD — DAY

(F/X THE BOOM AND EXPLOSIVE LAUNCH OF A SATURN-V-LIKE ROCKET.
CROSS BACK TO:)

SCENE 9. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL — DAY

(F/X LAUNCH CONTINUES OVER B/G MONITORS)

SALIM:

(ALoud, TO MISSION CONTROL) Salvage 2 launched seventeen hundred hours, two minutes, Indian Time. It's Thursday the twenty-eighth of May, 2071 and, ladies and gentlemen, Clean Up Space has finally begun!

(F/X WHOOPS AND CHEERS FROM ASSEMBLED TECHNICIANS)

SCENE 10. INT. MANDELA – OBSERVATION MODULE

FLIP:

Why's there a "Clean Up Space" thing anyway? What's there to clean up? I mean, it's space. We're not talking alien poop on pavements.

JYOTI:

It's for all the space junk.

FLIP:

You mean like Star Wars?

DOCTOR:

Look down there, Flip. The whole world. Bursting with life and energy and potential. Just India there, India alone has more variety and vitality than some entire planets I've been to. Humanity is exciting, it's the only word for it. And yet –

JYOTI:

'Some entire planets' you've [been to?]

FLIP:

He just talks like that, it's okay.

DOCTOR:

– for all that humanity is vibrant, exciting and, yes, indomitable, you really are the most terrible litterbugs.

(F/X THE DOCTOR STANDS AND CROSSES TO THE WINDOW. RAPS ON THE GLASS)

DOCTOR:

Six inches of glass in this window. But just a single football-sized piece of debris, flying at orbital speeds, would punch through it like it was tissue paper.

FLIP:

Who kicks footballs into space? Frank Lampard?

JYOTI:

There's just so much stuff out there.

DOCTOR:

Even in your time, Flip, NASA was tracking tens of thousands of pieces of debris. Dead satellites. Rocket engine fragments. Nuclear reactors.

JYOTI:

They call them 'zombie satellites'.

SCENE 11. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

(BUSIER. EVERYBODY WORKING. COMPUTERS REPORTING STATUS UPDATES WITH BLEEPES.)

ISRA TECH #2:

Second-sep engines reporting 30 seconds from Burn 1.

SALIM:

(INTO HEADSET) Nav-con, confirm Salvage 2's automated flight program. Has it corrected for that launch crosswind?

ISRA TECH #1:

(OVER SPEAKER) Corrections confirmed. Salvage 2 on course.

SALIM:

(INTO HEADSET) Thank you, Nav-con. (TO ALL) Ladies and gentlemen, our target is the Envisat satellite, the ironically-named "Environmental Satellite". Decommissioned 2012, it's a zombie satellite with a mass of 8 point 2 tonnes and we've had enough of it. Envisat is now designated target Alpha-Alpha-1 in our database. Salvage 2 is going to swallow that dead weight whole and chuck it into a re-entry burnup and it's going to do it today. Let's get that junk out of my sky.

(F/X ALARMS START TO RING. ALARMED CHATTER FROM TECHNICIANS.)

ISRA TECHS #1 + #2:

What's happening?

What's gone wrong?

Where's that alarm?

SALIM:

(INTO HEADSET) Calm it, everyone, stand by. I'm getting power warnings. (CALLING) Ops, kill those alarms, I can't hear. (INTO HEADSET) Flight, speak to me.

(F/X ALL ALARMS STOP INSTANTLY. ALL COMPUTERS ETC STOP.)

ISRA TECHS #1 + #2:

I've lost screens.

No contact.

Radio out, power out.

SALIM:

(INTO HEADSET) Ops? (BEAT) Nav-Con, do you hear me? (CALLING) Someone! Anyone! I need power!

(F/X DOORS OFF. ENTER JESSICA)

JESSICA:

(SLIGHTLY OFF, LOUD) Never fear. The British are here.

SCENE 12. INT. MANDELA – OBSERVATION MODULE

DOCTOR:

Odd. There should've been another burn by now.

JYOTI:

You can spot a trajectory at this distance?

DOCTOR:

It's a very distinctive trajectory.

FLIP:

There! Did you see it? Another flash. I can't see the ship but there was a flash. Is that the burn?

DOCTOR:

Not the one I wanted to see.

SCENE 13. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

SALIM:

Power? Anyone? Do we have anything?

(F/X SUDDENLY, POWER LURCHES BACK ON — AND AS SOON AS THE MACHINERY IS BACK, THE ALARMS START BELLOWING AGAIN)

JESSICA:

(SHOUTS) For heaven's sake, who put the alarms on the primary circuits?

SALIM:

(SHOUTS) Ops! Kill the alarms!

(F/X ALARMS STOP)

JESSICA:

(CALLING) You on electrical! Yes, you! Tell me why should I let you keep your job?

SALIM:

Quiet, please! (IGNORES HER, CALLS) Flight, it's Salim. I'm taking over Salvage 2 from here.

JESSICA:

Oh, no no no. I don't think so.

ISRA TECH #2:

You have control, Salim.

JESSICA:

I have control. Jessica Allaway. I'm senior management now.

SALIM:

(ALoud) Will someone please remove this 'manager' from my mission control!

JESSICA:

This mess is yours? Then tell me why that rocket's course is so off.

SALIM:

(WORKING COMPUTERS) It's not, it's — (REALISES) it is. Orbital altitude... That's far too high. I'm going to spin it. (CALLS) Flight, I'm doing a three-second burst in three... two... firing.

(F/X NEW Bleeps INDICATE A ROCKET-ENGINE BURN IS UNDERWAY.)

SALIM:

One... two... burn complete.

(BEAT... BUT THEN F/X THE BURN BLEEPS CONTINUE.)

JESSICA:

Then what's that?

SALIM:

It's another burn! Flight! Did you signal a second burn?

ISRA TECH #2:

Not us.

JESSICA:

Sort out the blame later. Salvage 2's just looped past Alpha-Alpha-One.

SALIM:

(INTO HEADSET) Nav-Con, put course projections on the main screen. I want to see where it's going.

(BEAT)

JESSICA:

Nav-Con, Jessica Allaway. Put the orbital map there too. I want to see what it's going to hit.

ISRA TECH #1:

Who are you?

JESSICA:

Nav-Con, if I have to fire everybody this minute, it'll just save me doing it tomorrow. Orbital map. Screen. Now.

SCENE 14. INT. MANDELA – OBSERVATION ROOM

(THE DOCTOR IS ON HIS FEET, PACING. VERY AWARE THAT SOMETHING HAS GONE WRONG.)

JYOTI:

Look! Another flash! But it's so close! Why can't I see the ship?

DOCTOR:

You can't see it because it's facing us head on. It's flying straight at us. Jyoti. Go. Get everybody into the secure area, right now.

JYOTI:

I haven't got the authority and I'm betting you haven't either.

DOCTOR:

It doesn't matter who has authority. Everyone is in danger, get them to the best-protected module on the station. You have minutes. At best.

JYOTI:

The Mandela's a mile wide, how I can reach everybody?

FLIP:

Phone them?

DOCTOR:

Good idea! – well done, Flip. Now, the TARDIS.

JYOTI:

We're not really going to be hit, are we?

FLIP:

Doctor, we're not really going to run away?

DOCTOR:

No, we're going to intercept Salvage 2 in the TARDIS.

FLIP:

No. You intercept that thing, I'll help here. (TO JYOTI) Jyoti, show me to the phone system. Can you do that?

JYOTI:

I don't know if I should.

DOCTOR:

If I get this right, Flip, you might even be safer here.

FLIP:

Oh, now, you know me. Caution is my middle name. And hey! You're always telling me not to run off. Well, here I am, not running off.

DOCTOR:

I'll be back before you know it. And then I'm going to show you India.

FLIP:

No hurry.

(DOCTOR EXITS.)

JYOTI:

There's a comms panel here.

FLIP:

You're up, then. Get calling.

JYOTI:

(PRESSES A BUTTON) Attention, everyone!

(HER VOICE ECHOES OVER MAIN SPEAKERS THROUGHOUT THE STATION, INCLUDING THIS MODULE)

JYOTI:

This is an emergency! The Salvage 2 craft is on a collision course with the Mandela! All crew, evacuate to module S-Eleven immediately!

(BEAT)

FLIP:

How will we know if it's worked?

COMMANDER GABBARD:

(OVER SPEAKER) Jyoti, what are you talking about?

JYOTI:

(INTO COMMS) Commander Gabbard. Sir! I'm serious!

COMMANDER GABBARD:

(OVER SPEAKER) Then you're imagining things.

FLIP:

Let me. (INTO COMMS) Hello. I'm Philippa Jackson, I'm a stowaway and she's not imagining me, is she?

COMMANDER GABBARD:

(OVER SPEAKER) You're a what?!

FLIP:

You heard, deal with it. Listen: this Salvage 2 thing is coming to eat us for dinner, so get with the programme and evacuate everyone to the safe areas right now. Okay? Me out.

JYOTI:

Wow.

FLIP:

I've got a younger brother. You learn how to get things done.

SCENE 15. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

(MORE BLEEPS, MORE COMPUTERS.)

JESSICA:

There's your problem, right there. Flight computer course program has been patched. Sabotage, clear as day.

SALIM:

Can't be.

JESSICA:

Timestamps don't lie. You've got yourself a saboteur.

SALIM:

Two saboteurs. The power short, remember?

JESSICA:

Two separate acts of sabotage, here in mission control? That's... unlucky.

SALIM:

We cannot discuss it now. (F/X BLEEPS) Look, we are running out of propellant on Salvage 2, I need to spin her into a longer, lower course.

JESSICA:

I can do this.

SALIM:

My ship. My fault. I'm putting it right.

ISRA TECH #2:

Time to Mandela, two minutes.

JESSICA:

Okay. But do it faster.

(F/X ALARMS START AGAIN)

JESSICA:

Are we losing power again?

SALIM:

It's the Clean Up programming kicking back in. Salvage 2's locked on a target. Commencing clean up procedure.

SCENE 16. INT. MANDELA – OBSERVATION MODULE

(EVACUATION ALARMS ARE SOUNDING BUT FLIP AND JYOTI ARE IGNORING THEM.)

FLIP:

Okay, if we can't get to this secure module in time, is there someone else? Somewhere without a great big window?

JYOTI:

There it is! Look at that. Where's my camera?

FLIP:

That is one ugly spaceship.

JYOTI:

It's opening up.

FLIP:

It can't swallow the station, can it?

JYOTI:

No chance.

FLIP:

That's something.

JYOTI:

But it can take a big bite out of our module. Got it. Filming. This is fan – LOOK! What's that?

SCENE 17. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

Is that one of ours?

SALIM:

There's something in the way. Something's just appeared on the screen. It's – it looks like a box.

JESSICA:

A little box. What is that?

SALIM:

It's flying into the ship. How is it flying into the ship? What is it?

SCENE 18. INT. MANDELA – OBSERVATION MODULE

FLIP:

It's the TARDIS. Flying in between us and that ship. I can't watch.

JYOTI:

This is fantastic footage. (SEES THE TARDIS ENTERING SALVAGE 2)
Whoa!

FLIP:

Hang about – where'd it go? The TARDIS?

JYOTI:

Right inside Salvage 2.

SCENE 19. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

SALIM:

(READING) Target acquired. It thinks this, this box is the satellite it was after.

JESSICA:

Well, whatever it is, give it a round of applause. Salvage 2's programming will change course now. It'll dive straight into a steep re-entry and spit it out. The Mandela's safe.

SALIM:

That was the plan, yes.

JESSICA:

I know. I approved the procedure. How long 'til it's supposed to change course?

SALIM:

I'd say ten, maybe twenty seconds ago.

SCENE 20. INT. MANDELA — OBSERVATION MODULE

JYOTI:

Look, I'm sorry for your friend but he's saved the station.

FLIP:

Look again.

JYOTI:

I don't understand.

FLIP:

That ship, Salvage 2! It's still coming for us! There's definitely nowhere safer than here?

JYOTI:

No. This never happens.

FLIP:

Space suits, then. Have you got any space suits?

JYOTI:

In the lockers.

SCENE 21. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

First bit of good news all day: system's recognised my authorisation codes.

SALIM:

More than I do.

JESSICA:

I'm sending override commands to Salvage 2.

SALIM:

(CALLING) Security! (TO JESSICA) Jessica, get out of here.

JESSICA:

No response.

SALIM:

What? Your answer is you won't answer?

JESSICA:

No response from Salvage 2. Lose the attitude, Slim – I'm the one here legally, right now you're work experience. Get me control of Salvage 2.

SALIM:

I'm trying-! It's like there's something in Salvage 2 counteracting every command we give it!

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Hello? Anyone there?

JESSICA:

What? Who's that? Where's it coming from?

SALIM:

(TO JESSICA) I don't know. TV reporter maybe. Run those overrides again, I'm holding nav-con.

JESSICA:

Right.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) No, this must be the right frequency. Hello, mission control, this is the Doctor, I'm aboard Salvage 2.

SALIM:

It's nonsense. Nobody's there. Turn him off.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Release nav-con to me. Oh, and flight now, I had control of flight.

JESSICA:

I just got control of flight right now. He's real.

SALIM:

No, he isn't. (INTO HEADSET) Clear this line! We have an emergency!

JESSICA:

Look at the monitors. It's seconds from hitting the station.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) I haven't time, release controls.

SALIM:

(INTO HEADSET) Salvage 2 is automated! There's no one on board!

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Wrong. Look, if you don't want to help, at least stop fiddling.

SALIM:

(TO JESSICA) What are you doing?

JESSICA:

I'm stopping fiddling.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Thank you!

SALIM:

He really is there.

JESSICA:

For how much longer?

SALIM:

Impact with space station in three...

JESSICA:

It won't hit.

SALIM:

... two...

JESSICA:

Not with me in charge.

SALIM:

... One. Impact.

SCENE 22. INT. MANDELA – OBSERVATION MODULE

(THE SMASH OF SALVAGE 2 HITTING THE STATION. IT'S NOT A HEAD-ON COLLISION: IT CLIPS THE MODULE THAT FLIP AND JYOTI ARE IN. THEY'RE TRYING TO GET SPACESUITS ON.)

FLIP:

Jyoti! Leave the camera!

JYOTI:

Just a sec, this is too good.

(F/X VIOLENT HISSING OF AIR ESCAPING, WIND-LIKE ROAR)

FLIP:

Listen! That means we've been punctured, doesn't it?

(F/X: ALARMS)

JYOTI:

Yeah. Air venting into space. Oh, I so hope this camera is 3D.

FLIP:

Put your helmet on. Do it now.

JYOTI:

(PUTTING ON HELMET) Alright, alright.

FLIP:

And show me how to do mine. – Gah, I can't move in this suit! Why's mine twice the size of yours?

JYOTI:

(HELMETED) Hold still! (FIXING FLIP'S HELMET THROUGH:) It's just what we had. You got a Baumgartner, I got a basic Aldrin.

FLIP:

(HELMETED) But you keep them topped up with oxygen, right?

JYOTI:

(HELMETED) Not really, no.

SCENE 23. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

Looks like the impact has clipped a Mandela module. Bad news for anyone in it, but it looks like the rest of the station is safe.

SALIM:

Salvage 2 showing course change. Bit late, but it's changing. Reaching ejection point.

JESSICA:

Okay. You can stand down now, Slim.

SALIM:

I'm not going anywhere.

JESSICA:

(ALoud) Attention, everyone! There's a saboteur on staff. I want everyone out of mission control.

TECHNICIANS:

(AUDIBLE CONSTERNATION) Is she mad?/ That's insane!

JESSICA:

(ALoud) I said everyone! (CLAPS HANDS) Go on, move it! There's a security team waiting outside. Report for debriefing now or I'll have you arrested! Don't think I don't mean it!

TECHNICIANS:

(GRUMBLE, SHUFFLING OUT THROUGH:)

JESSICA:

Same goes for you, Slim. The mission's over.

SALIM:

Please, not now! We've reached the ejection point, but there's been no ejection. We're going to lose Salvage 2!

JESSICA:

Forget Salvage 2. It's dead, gone, finished. You need to start thinking about the inquiry into this mess.

SALIM:

That man may still be aboard, whoever he was!

JESSICA:

If I were you, Slim, I'd keep things simple. There was no mysterious stranger aboard Salvage 2. There can't have been.

SALIM:

Then how do you explain it?

JESSICA:

Maybe he was the saboteur, hacking into our comms.

SALIM:

Do you think so...?

JESSICA:

Could be he's right inside this building.

(F/X TARDIS MATERIALISATION, JUST OFF. NB: LAST OF THE
TECHNICIANS HAS GONE BY NOW)

SALIM:

Is - is that something to do with you?

JESSICA:

I don't believe it...

(DOCTOR RUNS OUT.)

DOCTOR:

Oh, so it is you. Jessica Allaway. Thought I recognised the voice.

JESSICA:

Have we met?

DOCTOR:

Well, we have now. (TO SALIM) You - you must be the mission controller, is that right?

SALIM:

I'm Salim Jahangir, but -

DOCTOR:

Yes, well - next time, Salim, program some leeway in your spacecraft's payload parameters, would you? My TARDIS was a little heavier than a satellite.

SALIM:

(CALLING) Security!

JESSICA:

(CALLING) Security!

DOCTOR:

(CALLING) Security!

(BEAT. SECURITY DOESN'T ARRIVE.)

DOCTOR:
Must be on a tea break.

JESSICA:
Busy processing the technical staff. We've got a saboteur.

DOCTOR:
I can see you've got a lot of problems here but trust me, I am not one of them. Please, let me at the controls.

SALIM:
(TO DOCTOR) Salvage 2 is gone. What exactly do you think you can do, mister, er...?

(F/X DOCTOR TAKES OVER THE CONTROLS. TAPPING AWAY THROUGH:)

DOCTOR:
Doctor. I did say. Now, do you want to save Salvage 2 or not?

JESSICA:
Alright, go ahead.

SALIM:
Are you serious?

JESSICA:
It's an expensive machine. It's lost now, but if he really thinks he can salvage it...

SALIM:
And you trust him? – Oh, oh, of course. It's because he's British!

DOCTOR:
If you two could bear to put your obvious differences aside for just one moment – I'm going to need a radio link to the Mandela. Can you do that?

SALIM:
(INTO HEADSET) I-S-R-A Mission Control calling Mandela. Come in, Mandela Station.

JESSICA:
No answer.

SALIM:
(READING OFF SCREEN) There's computer traffic, but it's all bad. Says they've lost a module.

DOCTOR:
I knew it had hit the station. I felt it. But a whole module? Which one?

SALIM:

Wait... Good news, it was just observation.

DOCTOR:

Oh, no! Flip...!

SCENE 24. EXT. SPACE

(FLIP AND JYOTI IN SPACE, FLOATING)

(F/X FLIP'S SPACE-SUIT AND HER BREATHING. DEFINITELY 2001 WITH A BIT MORE PANIC.)

FLIP:

Breathe, Flip. You're floating in space. Happens all the time. (LOUDER) Jyoti? Show me again. I can't see which buttons you meant.

(F/X PRESSES BUTTONS ON THE ARM OF HER SUIT; IT BLEEPES AND IMMEDIATELY JYOTI'S VOICE STARTS)

JYOTI:

- ellow, the yellow button switches on the radio. Green to talk to me.

FLIP:

Gotcha. Green for go. Are you okay?

JYOTI:

I'm fantastic. I saved the camera! Give me a wave.

FLIP:

Hello. Can you see the module?

JYOTI:

It's floating away behind you. But it's the space station we need, not the module.

FLIP:

Right. Okay. (BEAT) Is that footage being seen anywhere? Does anyone know we're out here?

JYOTI:

No. And radios are seriously short-range. These suits are just module spares from when it was fitted. I've got forty-six minutes' oxygen, what about you?

FLIP:

I don't know how to tell.

JYOTI:

Hold down green and blue buttons for a sec.

(F/X FLIP'S HELMET SWITCHES ON A HEADS-UP DISPLAY)

FLIP:

Wow, television. It says oxygen fifty-three minutes – and now everything's gone red.

JYOTI:

(INTERRUPTED) – breaking up. We’re drifting too far apart.

FLIP:

Jyoti! How do we get to the station? (BEAT) Jyoti?

JYOTI:

- idea.

FLIP:

(RELIEF) Great!

JYOTI:

- no idea at all -

SCENE 25. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

(THE DOCTOR HURRYING ABOUT THE CONTROLS, TYPING AND SEARCHING FOR WHAT HE NEEDS NEXT.)

DOCTOR:

I need a database of everything in orbit. Everything up there that isn't junk. Have you got that?

SALIM:

Spaceguard. If it's not on Spaceguard, and it's bigger than a fist, NASA tracks it as space junk.

DOCTOR:

As a matter of fact, I helped get Spaceguard started.

JESSICA:

(WITHERING) Of course you did.

DOCTOR:

Spaceguard systems online. Good. Could you all keep quiet for just one second? I need to get this into my head.

SALIM:

What? You're going to memorise the orbital database?

JESSICA:

Five thousand active satellites and fifteen thousand pieces of junk?

DOCTOR:

I did say give me a second.

SCENE 26. TV: VERY BAD SOAP

(SOUNDS LIKE A VERY CHEAP DIGITAL CHANNEL.)

(DRAMATIC 'PREVIOUSLY ON...' MUSIC STING)

TV SOAP ACTRESS:

Oh, Kenneth! What if my husband comes home early?

TV SOAP ACTOR:

I already have, Alishia.

TV SOAP ACTRESS:

Jonathan! I can explain, I was —

(F/X VERY FAST FUZZ/SCRATCH/INTERFERENCE)

DOCTOR:

(ON SCREEN) Oh, I've seen this one. Kenneth has set the whole thing up to blackmail Alishia into signing over the corporation but what neither of them realises is that he's really her twin brother. Mind if I borrow your satellite?

SCENE 27. TV NEWS BULLETIN

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

— been no official word from the police but local sources say the entire football team has been missing since yesterday evening.

(F/X VERY FAST FUZZ/SCRATCH/INTERFERENCE)

DOCTOR:

Exclusive for Newshub Nine. They're all in the Fox and Goose, Mumbai. Just need to borrow something, thank you.

SCENE 28. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

DOCTOR:

Right. Both of these satellites are in the Clarke belt. Supposedly geo-stationary but they will have just a little course-correction propellant and they're exactly where I need them.

SALIM:

Spaceguard reporting SuperSoap satellite deviating from orbit.

JESSICA:

Yes, and I've got the Newshub Nine satellite increasing altitude.

SALIM:

They're going to hit each other!

DOCTOR:

Oh, I do hope so.

SALIM:

I've got visual from cameras on one of —

(F/X ALARMS STOP. 'BANG' AS SATELLITES COLLIDE [NOT STRICTLY ACCURATE, BUT].)

SALIM:

Oh, I felt that one.

JESSICA:

Do you know how much just one of those satellites costs?

DOCTOR:

Flip is worth more. Now, I need something in a low-Earth orbit..

JESSICA:

Spaceguard says an old Soviet spy satellite is increasing altitude. It's going to be in their path.

DOCTOR:

One satellite hits another, hits another, hits another.

SALIM:

And what is the point? We're supposed to be clearing up space junk, not making more.

JESSICA:

Is this you, Doctor? French elliptical orbiter firing thrusters.

SCENE 29. EXT. SPACE

(F/X HELMET FX ON FLIP AND JYOTI)

JYOTI:

Just a sec, we've spun, I've got you framed just right with the space station over your shoulder.

FLIP:

Wonderful.

SCENE 30. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

DOCTOR:

Everything's working but this one. Why can't I get into this?

SALIM:

Which one are you after?

DOCTOR:

This. Whacking great thing, just above Envisat. Odd cylindrical shape.

SALIM:

(LYING) I do not know what it is.

DOCTOR:

Really? Because from what I can see, it would have been directly in Salvage 2's orbital path.

JESSICA:

(THOUGHTFUL) Like whoever sabotaged the flight computer wanted Salvage 2 to hit it...

DOCTOR:

Well, whatever it is, it's the last domino. Impact imminent.

SCENE 31. EXT. SPACE

(F/X HELMET FX ON FLIP AND JYOTI)

FLIP:

It's the Doctor! He's alive!

JYOTI:

Where?

FLIP:

Look! Spin around. There's like this whole string of satellites ramming into each another, knocking the next one on! Who else but the Doctor would think of that?

JYOTI:

What? Think of what?

FLIP:

He's sending a satellite our way. He's sending us a satellite to grab onto! Doctor, you are brilliant!

SCENE 32. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

DOCTOR:

Do you know, I think I did something like this with a single cricket ball once? I had no imagination then.

JESSICA:

Impact in ten.

(F/X BLEEP)

SALIM:

Sixty satellites now moving out of the way. People have finally caught on to what you're doing.

DOCTOR:

Doesn't matter now, so long as none cross in front of this last one in the next — Jessica?

JESSICA:

Four seconds. Three. Two...

SCENE 33. INT. SPACE

(F/X HELMET FX ON FLIP AND JYOTI)

FLIP:

There, the big cylinder one. It's going to be knocked our way any moment. Get ready to grab hold.

(F/X SMALL SATELLITE COLLIDES WITH BIG CYLINDRICAL ONE. THE CYLINDRICAL ONE IS 'SCAVENGER'. IT ABSORBS THE IMPACT)

JYOTI:

No good. The cylinder one isn't moving. It must have just – absorbed the impact somehow.

FLIP:

How's that even possible? I swear I could feel the wallop from here.

(F/X ELECTRICAL PULSE AS THE SCAVENGER'S ENGINE'S GRIND INTO LIFE)

JYOTI:

No, wait, it's moving.

FLIP:

It's turning. It's lighting up. Jyoti, I think its engines have started!

SCENE 34. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

The cylindrical one, what's it doing?

DOCTOR:

Whatever it is, I'd say that impact gave it some sort of kick start.

SALIM:

(RECOGNITION) Oh no. No, no, no...

(F/X ELECTRICAL PULSE OVER SPEAKERS. IN ROBOTIC, ALIEN VOICE:)

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SYSTEMS) Stand by. Scavenger systems rebooting. Navigation. Propulsion. Weapons.

JESSICA:

Is that what I think it is? Some zombie satellite is speaking to us?

DOCTOR:

Undead, you might say. "Scavenger", it called itself. Interesting.

(F/X ISRA DOORS OPEN – SECURITY ARRIVES!)

SECURITY GUY:

Ma'am, we've secured the building.

DOCTOR:

Oh look, security. Tea break's over, I take it.

JESSICA:

(TO SECURITY) Lock down mission control.

SECURITY GUY:

Already done, Ma'am. Armed men on every entrance.

SALIM:

(TO HIMSELF) Not this. Not this again.

JESSICA:

(SHARP) What did you say...?

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Weapons online.

DOCTOR:

Whatever this "Scavenger" is, we need to stop it before it opens fire on Flip and Jyoti!

SCAVENGER:
(OVER SPEAKER) Firing.

(F/X OVER SPEAKER: LASERS STARTING TO FIRE)

END OF PART ONE

PART TWO

REPRISE:

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Weapons online.

DOCTOR:

Whatever this "Scavenger" is, we need to stop it before it opens fire on Flip and Jyoti!

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Firing.

(F/X OVER SPEAKER: LASERS STARTING TO FIRE)

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 35. EXT. SPACE

(F/X SCAVENGER FIRING RIGHT IN FRONT OF FLIP AND JYOTI)

(F/X HELMET FX ON FLIP AND JYOTI)

FLIP:

I'm in Star Wars! Jyoti, the light's blinding me. Can you see?

SCAVENGER:

(THROUGH FLIP'S HELMET SPEAKER) Scavenger securing defence perimeter.

FLIP:

Wait, I heard that. It's talking? Jyoti, point your camera at it right now.

JYOTI:

I'm uploading! Going to get my footage straight into the cloud. At least it will survive even if we don't.

FLIP:

Let's see if we can't get you an interview. (CALLING) Hello! Satellite thing?

SCENE 36. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

DOCTOR:

Salim, watch the Haystack radar monitor. Jessica, get rid of your security.

SECURITY GUY:

(F/X COCKING GUN) You talking to me?

JESSICA:

(TO SECURITY) It's okay, [I'll deal with this]

DOCTOR:

(TO SECURITY) I'm talking about you.

JESSICA:

Doctor, my security stays. (TO SECURITY) No shooting.

SECURITY GUY:

Ma'am.

DOCTOR:

Thank you.

JESSICA:

You can blame a corpse but living scapegoats look better on TV.

SALIM:

Doctor, just ignore her. This is my mission control. Indian mission control.

JESSICA:

This whole project only got off the ground because of British money. British expertise. You wouldn't be anywhere without us.

DOCTOR:

(IGNORING HER) Look at the Haystack imaging. Live satellites and space junk alike, it's all disappearing around this Scavenger.

SALIM:

What do we do?

DOCTOR:

The thought occurs: if Scavenger can speak, surely it can listen too. (INTO MIC) Doctor calling Scavenger. Shut down your systems.

SALIM:

(TO JESSICA) Do you want to know what British investment bought?

JESSICA:

I do know. I was on the Board that authorised the payment. Why'd you think the British Government hired me?

DOCTOR:

Your people skills?

SALIM:

You scratched their back, they scratched yours.

JESSICA:

Listen, friend: our money didn't buy sabotage on Salvage 2. It didn't buy smashing a module off the Mandela. It didn't buy stranding astronauts in space.

DOCTOR:

Could you move a touch to your left? I'm going to need that keyboard.

SALIM:

It bought the coffee machine. Thank you very much for that. It's been vital.

DOCTOR:

(MORE TO SELF) I need to find the phrase that makes this thing talk. That way I won't have to listen to the pair of you bickering. (INTO MIC) Scavenger, try this. Respond with status.

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Processing.

DOCTOR:

That's progress.

SCAVENGER

(OVER SPEAKER) Identification: Scavenger. Systems resuming. Failure detected on visual. Failure on emitters. Failure on navigation control. Failure on repair systems. Seeking replacements.

DOCTOR:

Scavenger, stop firing. All weapons to standby.

(BEAT)

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Cycling emitters. Calculating firing solution. Firing.

DOCTOR:

Well, it might've worked.

SCENE 37. EXT. SPACE

(F/X HELMET FX THROUGHOUT)

FLIP:

Scavenger! My name's Flip. Can you hear me? (BEAT) I don't think it's listening to me.

(F/X LASER BLAST)

JYOTI:

Damn, that was a near miss. I'll do a data dump while we've still got a working camera.

FLIP:

Where will that go?

JYOTI:

Dumps to the cloud, triggers a backup on the systems at Control and the Mandela.

FLIP:

I think this thing has stopped firing. How long have you got left on oxygen?

SCENE 38. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

DOCTOR:
I think it's stopped firing.

(F/X BLIP)

DOCTOR:
Spoke too soon.

SALIM:
No, that's a message. (READS) Salvage 2's restarted.

DOCTOR:
Where is it? Can we send it to pick up Flip?

SALIM:
Completely the opposite side of the planet. Forty minutes until it's in position.

JESSICA:
So, Salvage 2 is safe. Pity about our friends in space, but overall I think we've contained the situation.

SALIM:
We?

JESSICA:
A triumph for Anglo-Indian co-operation.

DOCTOR:
Jessica, what if I told you that my friends in space are a British national and an Indian astronaut? Phillipa Jackson and Jyoti Cutler, in orbit and in need of rescue.

SALIM:
Jessica, look at the monitors. TV news. It's going mad out there.

DOCTOR:
I'd say they need a statement from someone in charge.

SALIM:
Exactly.

JESSICA:
Don't think I don't know what you're doing. But you're also right. This is the perfect moment to announce that the Indian government has handed I-S-R-A over to us.

SALIM:
Have they?

JESSICA:

Once I've reminded them of the small print in the contract,
yes.

(SHE EXITS. DOOR OPENS-AND-CLOSES.)

DOCTOR:

Now, then, Salim, what's this cloud backup that's started?

SCENE 39. EXT. ISRA SPACE CENTRE

(FADE UP PRESS MOB: CAMERAS, SHOUTING, QUESTIONING. JESSICA IN HER ELEMENT.)

PRESS MOB:

Here! Ms Allaway! Jessica! Over here! [ETC]

JESSICA:

Naturally, I can't release the names of the astronauts but my very best man is working on saving them.

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

And what about these reports of sabotage? Is the mission controller to blame?

JESSICA:

No comment.

SCENE 40. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

(F/X VIDEO SOUNDS — FROM PREVIOUS SCENE)

JYOTI:

Just a sec, we've spun, I've got you framed just right with the space station over your shoulder.

FLIP:

Oh, lovely.

DOCTOR:

Fast forward for me, Salim.

(F/X FOOTAGE ZOOMS ALONG ON FAST FORWARD)

SALIM:

The file hasn't finished downloading yet, it'll cut out at some point.

DOCTOR:

Stop there. Back a little.

(F/X FROM SCENE 33:)

JYOTI:

No, wait, it's moving.

FLIP:

It's turning. It's lighting up. Jyoti, I think its engines have started!

SALIM:

So that's what it looks like.

DOCTOR:

It's bigger than I expected.

SALIM:

I think it's smaller.

DOCTOR:

Wind back to the impact. I want to calculate its mass.

(REWIND, PLAY, BAM)

SALIM:

That's hard to watch.

DOCTOR:

Do you know, I think it must be hollow? Still very strong.

SALIM:

What are those markings? It might almost be Sanskrit.

DOCTOR:

It's not an Earth language. Whatever Scavenger is... it's alien.

SCENE 41. EXT. SPACE

(F/X HELMET FX THROUGHOUT)

JYOTI:

Ten minutes oxygen left. You on sixteen or seventeen?

FLIP:

Plenty of time. And Jyoti, I don't see anyone else floating around out here. We saved some people on the Mandela. You and me. What else are we here for if not that?

JYOTI:

[PRONOUNCED 'CHAA-T', LIKE 'CHART' WITHOUT THE R] Samosa Chaat, for one. Meeting new people -

FLIP:

Um, hello?

JYOTI:

- creating something worthwhile, you know?

FLIP:

I know.

JYOTI:

I was going to be a film producer. Family forced me into science. I had all my life for the movies, they said. "Get a profession, see the world."

FLIP:

Yes, family's never fun. But bet yours are proud of you.

JYOTI:

Weren't yours?

FLIP:

They were all "why aren't you a boy?" And then they had one. I left. It's 2071, they might even have noticed by now. And I wish they'd been bothered enough to say "see the world".

JYOTI:

Why?

FLIP:

Look down, Jyoti. One world, job done.

SCENE 42. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

SALIM:

We've got the whole file now.

DOCTOR:

Play the last moments for me, would you?

(F/X VIDEO NOISES – FROM SCENE 37:)

FLIP:

I think this thing has stopped firing. How long have you got left on oxygen?

SALIM:

That's where it ends.

DOCTOR:

And that's my cue.

SALIM:

I've got Salvage 2 heading their way.

DOCTOR:

No. They're low on oxygen. I can get to them faster than Salvage 2 can.

SALIM:

Seriously?

(ENTER JESSICA)

JESSICA:

(APPROACHING FROM OFF) You're not planning on going anywhere, I hope?

DOCTOR:

Ms Allaway. It's quite alright, there's no need to thank me. If it's all the same to you, I'll just be on my way in my funny blue box.

(THE DOCTOR HEADS FOR THE TARDIS)

JESSICA:

Security.

SECURITY GUY:

(INTERCEPTING THE DOCTOR) Sir – Ma'am would rather you stayed.

JESSICA:

Ma'am insists.

DOCTOR:

At gunpoint? Madam, I enjoy a good exchange of opinions but if you're going to threaten me...

JESSICA:

You thought that was a threat? I was being nice. This is a threat: you're an asset, Doctor, but you're unauthorised. So far the one has balanced the other, but if you try to leave, you will be shot.

SALIM:

Seriously, Jessica. There's no need for all this.

DOCTOR:

More to the point, there's no time. (TO JESSICA) People's lives are at risk, you do realise that?

JESSICA:

Okay. You want to talk about lives. How about everyone on the Mandela?

DOCTOR:

They're fine. Probably.

SALIM:

Computer chatter says they've restored gyros, they've got EVAs repairing some systems. They lost a module but everything else is okay.

JESSICA:

But where is that module? This module that's easily ten times the size of the Envisat zombie satellite. It's somewhere in orbit – and it's a very, very big addition to all the junk up there.

DOCTOR:

She's right, Salim.

JESSICA:

Don't sound so shocked. If that module smashes into the Mandela, nothing will save that station or any of the people aboard. So, Doctor, evidently you know more about orbital mechanics than is healthy and I need that right now. Your job is protecting the Mandela. From the module and from this Scavenger.

DOCTOR:

Your own database will be tracking both. My job is rescuing Flip and Jyoti.

JESSICA:

I'm coming to that. Slim – I saw the look on your face when that 'Scavenger' first appeared, I've a feeling you know a whole lot more about it that you're letting on.

SALIM:

Rubbish.

DOCTOR:

I confess, Salim, your reaction did seem a little... odd.

JESSICA:

Exactly. So what's happening in just a few minutes is, you're going to tell me and the Doctor everything you know. But first, I'm going to run a visual inspection on the Mandela by diverting a spy satellite to it. Then, the Doctor can fly it to rescue his friends. And didn't I seem like the bad guy?

SCENE 43. EXT. SPACE

(F/X HELMETS THROUGHOUT)

JYOTI:

Flip, what's your heads-up say about your suit?

FLIP:

Not a clue. There's a thing saying PSI. I thought that was a TV show.

JYOTI:

You might be able to jump.

FLIP:

Sorry?

JYOTI:

I can't, my suit won't take the pressure. But yours is a Baumgartner, you got the full kit. I should've thought of it before. What's your oxygen?

FLIP:

Hang on, did you see that?

JYOTI:

Is it firing again?

FLIP:

No, behind it. I thought – now it's above it, climbing, yes, there's a – look, you can see it when it crosses the Earth, there's a black satellite moving.

JYOTI:

It's very close to the Scavenger.

SCENE 44. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

You getting the hang of flying Sid, Doctor?

DOCTOR:

(AT CONTROLS OF SPY SATELLITE, FLYING IT TO FLIP & JYOTI) Sid-?
Is that what they call spy satellites, these days?

SALIM:

You're dead on course.

DOCTOR:

One more burn in three... two...

SCENE 45. EXT. SPACE

(F/X HELMET FX THROUGHOUT. SATELLITE ENGINE BURN CLOSE BY)

FLIP:

Right, Jyoti, reach out for me. We're only going to get a second.

JYOTI:

I'm on three minutes' oxygen, it's not worth it.

FLIP:

It isn't over until three minutes are over. That satellite is coming our way and we're grabbing it, okay?

JYOTI:

Then what?

FLIP:

We're going home. Mandela station or bust.

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKERS) Identification: Scavenger. Systems resumed. Failure detected on visual. Visual equipment supply detected.

FLIP:

Scavenger's moving! Oh, why can't we reach anyone?

SCENE 46. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKERS) Recovery and replacement program activated.

SALIM:

Look.

JESSICA:

It's moving fast. There's a lot of visual equipment on Sid. It's detected the camera gear and it wants it.

DOCTOR:

That's rather impressive. I wonder how it knows?

SALIM:

If we've got cameras, why don't we use them?

DOCTOR:

What a good idea.

(F/X SWITCHES AND BUZZES)

DOCTOR:

Would you look at that? Now that's precision flying, if I do say so myself. Perfectly lined up, it'll fly right beside the Mandela. Switching to 180 rear camera. Oh.

JESSICA:

There they are. Our two astronauts. Scavenger's closing in.

DOCTOR:

It's gaining on them. – There, that one must be Flip. Good girl! She's got Jyoti in a position to grab on.

SCENE 47. EXT. SPACE

(F/X HELMETS)

FLIP:
Reach for the satellite! Get a hold!

(F/X WALLOP: FLIP AND JYOTI COLLIDE WITH THE SATELLITE)

FLIP:
Whoa, that's a punch to the ribs. Jyoti? Are you on?

JYOTI:
(PANTING) Yeah. — I think I'm going to throw up in my suit.

FLIP:
Lovely.

(F/X LASER BLAST FROM OFF — THE SCAVENGER SHOOTING ITS
TELEPORT BEAM AT THEM; SEE LAHORE FLASHBACK SCENES 54-56)

FLIP:
What the-? Something's shooting pink lasers at us. Get your
head down, Jyoti, and stay at the front!

SCENE 48. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

DOCTOR:

Where've they got to-? They're in space suits, they must have comms.

SALIM:

Can't raise them on the radio, sorry.

JESSICA:

Look at the rear view. The whole screen's glowing a kind of pink.

DOCTOR:

All forward motion has been arrested. That beam from Scavenger, it's holding Sid. Cycle the cameras, are Flip and Jyoti okay?

SALIM:

No sign on the perimeter or rear cameras.

JESSICA:

They've let go. Look, on forward view. They've let go and they're carrying on toward the Mandela.

DOCTOR:

Momentum! And she says she never paid attention in school.

SCENE 49. EXT. SPACE

(F/X HELMETS THROUGHOUT)

JYOTI:

(INCREASINGLY WEAK. SHALLOW BREATHING) Can't see my heads-up display. My helmet's fogged up.

FLIP:

Listen, just hold on to me, Jyoti, and turn when I do. The momentum's gonna carry us all the way to the —

COMMANDER GABBARD:

(OVER HELMET SPEAKER) Commander Gabbard, Mandela station, to astronaut. Come in Jyoti. Is that you? Opening the airlock now.

FLIP:

Hear that, Jyoti? Almost there. (BEAT) Jyoti? (BEAT) Jyoti! Stay conscious, just a little longer. One more minute and we'll be on board the Mandela, you'll see. (BEAT) Here it comes now, the airlock. Just let go of me, and grab a hold.

JYOTI:

(RASPING) No strength left.

FLIP:

Let go of me. Let go!

SCENE 50. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

DOCTOR:

They're opening an airlock on the Mandela. (BEAT) And that camera's gone, just at the good bit. Let's try the rear view, see if Scavenger's taken that yet.

SALIM:

I'm glad your friend is alright.

DOCTOR:

Thank you. (RE SCAVENGER) It really is fascinating. Part mechanical, part sonic, part laser. Taking what it needs from the spy satellite. It genuinely is scavenging.

SALIM:

We have to find a way to stop it. It won't stop at cameras, it... (TRAILS OFF, RUMBLED)

JESSICA:

Uh-huh.

DOCTOR:

You do know about this Scavenger – don't you, Salim?

SALIM:

Sixty years it's taken me. (SNORTS) And that's just to get Salvage 2 in place.

DOCTOR:

Sixty years...?!

JESSICA:

Alright, I get it. You knew there was an alien satellite hidden in all that space junk and you wanted the technology, hence "Salvage". (BEAT) Don't blame you. We're not so different, Salim.

DOCTOR:

Except Salim here isn't interested in the technology. Are you, Salim? Flip and Jyoti are safely aboard the Mandela. Scavenger is quiet. We have this moment. Speak.

SALIM:

If either of you knew your history –

DOCTOR:

I have what you might call a working knowledge of it.

SALIM:

History is supposed to be what happens to other people. What happened to other people. I don't know what you call it when it's personal. When your own life becomes legend.

DOCTOR:

Feels strange, doesn't it?

SALIM:

I was royalty.

JESSICA:

(SNORTS) Oh, here we go.

SALIM:

What, Englishwoman? Have you never heard the story of the Crown Prince Salim and the slave girl Anarkali?

JESSICA:

British, not English. So, you've a royal ancestor. Not that unusual where I come from.

DOCTOR:

Ms Allaway. Please.

SALIM:

I am the Crown Prince Salim. I stopped ageing the day she was taken.

JESSICA:

(LAUGHS) And people say I'm full of it.

SALIM:

I am the Crown Prince. I am four hundred and ninety-six years old – so, Jessica, take my job, I've saved up enough for my pension.

SCENE 51. INT. MANDELA — SICK BAY

(F/X TECHNOLOGICAL, CLEAN ENVIRONMENT BUT WITH HEARTRATE-LIKE MONITORS AND MEDICAL MONITOR BLEEPS.)

JYOTI:
(JOLTS AWAKE) Aaaaah!

COMMANDER GABBARD:
Not so fast, Jyoti.

JYOTI:
Commander! — I'm alive? How am I alive?

COMMANDER GABBARD:
You're in sickbay, aboard the Mandela. You've been suffering from oxygen deprivation. Try to relax. You're safe now.

JYOTI:
Safe, right. — How's Flip?

COMMANDER GABBARD:
What's Flip?

JYOTI:
The stowaway, you spoke to her. She's still out there!

SCENE 52. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

Four hundred and ninety-six! Stop wasting my time with these fantasies, Salim, and get to the point: what is Scavenger?

SALIM:

I am not spinning some idle yarn.

DOCTOR:

There I have to disagree. The story of the Crown Prince Salim and the slave girl Anarkali is, I'm afraid, pure fiction.

JESSICA:

Hah!

DOCTOR:

I know because I once met its author – oh, many, many years ago. A man named Abdul Halim Sharar. (BEAT) Although, now I come to think of him –

SALIM:

Was he about my height at all? Of similar build?

DOCTOR:

Well, now that you mention it...

SALIM:

I was Sharar. But you were not the well-travelled Doctor I once met, in the seventeenth century. He was an entirely different person.

DOCTOR:

Yes, I would have been.

JESSICA:

I could get the pair of you certified right now. In fact, I think I will.

DOCTOR:

Ms Allaway, this is important!

SALIM:

People say that my Anarkali was executed for being in love with me. That she "died between two walls". Men have searched palaces all over this land for those walls; they have claimed to have found them, even. Sometimes, they have changed the ending of the story, to suit their need for romance. But I alone remember the truth.

DOCTOR:

So what is the truth, Salim? What really happened?

(F/X BEGIN CROSSFADE INTO NEXT SCENE THROUGH:)

SALIM:

The story begins in my palace at Lahore, in the year sixteen hundred, shortly after my return from fourteen years in the military... only to find that a flower I had left behind had blossomed in my absence.

SCENE 53. INT. LAHORE PALACE, PUNJAB, 1600 [FLASHBACK]

(F/X OPULENT. FOUNTAINS. THE END OF A MUJRA-STYLE DANCE, BEAT OUT ON A TABLA-STYLE DRUM. DANCER HAS JINGLING FINGER CYMBALS, WHICH CEASE WITH DRUM)

SALIM:

(CLAPS) Very good, very good. Now I know I am returned home at last. (HE COUGHS: A DRY COUGH) You. Dancing girl. Fetch water. Quickly now.

ANARKALI:

My lord. (SHE MOVES OFF)

SALIM:

The rest of you may go. Go!

(F/X MUSICIANS SHUFFLE OUT. SALIM COUGHS)

ANARKALI:

(RETURNING WITH WATER) I most humbly offer my lord the water he desires. (FX: POURING WATER) Not that you deserve it. It's only a [cough.]

(F/X A DISTANT WHUMP — THE SCAVENGER ATTACKING OUTSIDE.)

ANARKALI:

What's that?

SALIM:

Probably my Court Priest. Listening to you, Anarkali, and fainting at your cheek.

ANARKALI:

(WORRIED) You do not really think so? Salim, my dearest love, we have been so long parted, but we must not be caught now.

SALIM:

I can always get a new Court Priest.

(F/X ANOTHER WHUMP OUTSIDE. CLOSER)

ANARKALI:

Again!

SALIM:

It came from outside the palace. (EXITING) Come. I must see.

(F/X ANARKALI FOLLOWS. CUT TO:)

SCENE 54. EXT. LAHORE PALACE, PUNJAB, 1600 [FLASHBACK]

(F/X LOUD, HOT, CROWDED STREETS. AND VERY MODERN LASER BLASTS AT INTERVALS. SCAVENGER — A SATELLITE-SIZED ALIEN WEAPON — IS FIRING ON THE CITY. PEOPLE RUNNING AWAY.)

PANICKED CROWD [PUNJABI]:

Preserve us!

It's the sun! Come to burn us!

Keep away from it! Run!

(SALIM AND ANARKALI RUN OUT AND HALT.)

ANARKALI:

The sun has descended! It is cutting the land with its rays!

SALIM:

The sun is behind us, this is a new star. A silver star above Lahore. Is it a god? (CALLING) Court Priest! Court Priest!

ANARKALI:

There! I see him. He's running.

(F/X MORE BLASTING)

SALIM:

Then he shows more wisdom than usual.

(F/X LASER BLAST CHANGES TO A SHARPER, SMALLER, SCALPEL SOUND. PROBING.)

ANARKALI:

The silver beast's rays, they are changing! I think... I think it's looking for something.

SALIM:

(DISMISSIVE) "Looking"! It has no eyes.

ANARKALI:

(ALARMED) The rays, they are coming for us! My lord, look out-!

(F/X QUESTING RAY STRIKES SALIM)

SALIM:

Aaaa-

(HARSH CUT TO:)

SCENE 55. INT. THE SCAVENGER BEAM [FLASHBACK]

(ABSOLUTE SILENCE BAR SALIM'S BREATHING.)

(BEAT)

SALIM:

So... violent. Yet so peaceful. Yes. If it saves my people. I will help you. (BEAT; COUGHS —)

(AND CONSEQUENTLY IS REJECTED, PROPELLED OUT OF THE BEAM.)

SCENE 56. EXT. LAHORE PALACE [FLASHBACK]

(SALIM IS PUSHED OUT OF THE BEAM, LANDS ON HARD GROUND.)

ANARKALI:
My lord! —

SALIM:
(COUGHS) It needs help. That's all, it just wants our help.

ANARKALI:
We must run, we must —

SALIM:
(WARNING) Anarkali, no!

(F/X THE TORCH-LIKE SEARCHING BEAM STRIKES ANARKALI. IT PUNCHES THE BREATH OUT OF HER.)

ANARKALI:
(STRUGGLING TO SPEAK) Help me —

SALIM:
(TO SCAVENGER) Not her, silver star! Not her! (TO ANARKALI)
Anarkali! Do not agree! You must not [agree!]

(F/X THE SCAVENGER ROARS UP INTO THE SKY, TAKING ANARKALI WITH IT)

SALIM:
Anarkali!

(FX: HOLD AND ECHO AS WE CROSS BACK TO:)

SCENE 57. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

SALIM:

"Scavenger". After all this time, my enemy has a name. It changes things, for my enemy to have a name.

DOCTOR:

This Scavenger... scavenged Anarkali?

SALIM:

My Anarkali was taken into the skies above Lahore in the year 1600. Every night since I have worked to bring her back. I have watched the beast circle high above me for one hundred and seventy thousand nights. While Anarkali is gone, I can no longer rule, I can no longer age. Love alone is the reason I still live.

DOCTOR:

There might be rather more to it than that.

JESSICA:

You think this girl is still alive? Inside Scavenger?

SALIM:

Of course she is. "Between two walls".

DOCTOR:

Salim, Scavenger was asleep in orbit for four hundred years until we woke it up. Nothing dormant could sustain an atmosphere that long. Even if her life was extended as long as you say yours was, without oxygen or a proper atmosphere... Anarkali can't be alive. I'm sorry.

SALIM:

Doctor, you're not listening!

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) Mandela Station calling the Doctor. Are you there, Doctor?

JESSICA:

It's for you.

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Jyoti? So good to hear your voice. Put Flip on.

(F/X CROSS TO:)

58. INT. MANDELA STATION — CONTROL ROOM

JYOTI:

(INTO MIC) That's it, Doctor. She's not here. She didn't come on board with me.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) What happened? Did you see her?

JYOTI:

(INTO MIC) No. Last thing I saw was Scavenger firing this pink beam. The first ones were this red so bright it seared your eyes. But then it was weedy little pink ones. It can't have hit her.

SCENE 59. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

SALIM:

I'm so sorry, Doctor. It searches with these beams. One of them struck me back in Lahore, I could feel it examining me.

DOCTOR:

Yet it didn't scavenge you?

SALIM:

I had a cough... a virus. That's all I can think of. I wasn't as fit as Anarkali. The beam switched to her and then she was taken.

(BEAT)

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Jyoti, are you feeling alright?

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) Doesn't matter. Doctor, Flip's gone!

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) This is important. Are you ill, are you injured in any way?

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) I'm fine. I bruised my arm somewhere. It's nothing.

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Thank you, Jyoti.

(F/X HE DROPS THE CONNECTION)

JESSICA:

Your friend was the healthier of the two, the fitter.

SALIM:

So that's who Scavenger took. It must have been right when they were right on top of the station.

DOCTOR:

Let's see what Scavenger has to say for itself, shall we? (INTO MIC) Scavenger, report status.

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Identification: Scavenger. Visual system failure replaced. Fuel failure replaced. Host failure replaced.

DOCTOR:

Host?

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Confirmed, host acquired. Absorbing.
Identification: Phillipa Jackson.

DOCTOR:

(ASIDE) Flip. Well, she's alive at least. (INTO MIC) Scavenger
– can you let me talk to her? Can you let me talk to the host?

(BEAT)

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Confirmed.

(F/X HELMET FX ON FLIP DIALOGUE – STILL IN SPACESUIT)

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Doctor? Doctor? Is that you?

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Flip! Do you know where you are?

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 60. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

(F/X HELMET FX ON FLIP DIALOGUE – STILL IN SPACESUIT)

FLIP:

(INTO MIC) I'm wedged right in, wherever I am. Really weird. Bit scary. I can't feel the floor and there's no ceiling in sight but I'm rammed in between these... massive walls. Where is this? Doctor-!

DOCTOR:

All in good time, Flip.

SALIM:

(ASIDE, OVER SPEAKER) Has she seen Anarkali? Ask her if she's seen Anarkali!

FLIP:

(INTO MIC) Is that a movie? Who's that?

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Flip, meet Crown Prince Salim.

JESSICA:

(OVER SPEAKER) And Jessica Allaway, I'm in charge.

FLIP:

(INTO MIC) Great, hello everyone. If you're in charge, can you let me out now? Or just ease up the pressure? It's like I'm pinned in between these two huge walls, you know? ...

(F/X CROSS BACK TO:)

SCENE 61. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

(F/X HELMET FX ON FLIP DIALOGUE – STILL IN SPACESUIT)

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Getting hard to breathe, jammed in here.

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Flip, how much oxygen have you got?

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Hang about... seven minutes. Oh, I got you. I shouldn't waste it now I'm indoors. (TWISTING) How do I switch it off –

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) No! Flip, keep your oxygen on. Leave your helmet on and breathe normally.

SCAVENGER

(OVER SPEAKER) Host failing. Repair computers estimate 100 litres of oxygen required.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) What was that? What did it say?

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Just... hold on, Flip. Try not to panic. We'll be back in a moment. Doctor out. (F/X SWITCHES MIC OFF) (TO THE OTHERS:) Seven minutes to get her out of there. (BEAT) Or seven minutes to get oxygen to her..

JESSICA:

One hundred litres it said she requires. Why one hundred litres?

DOCTOR:

Good question, Ms Allaway!

SALIM:

We breathe about one hundred litres in an hour but that's air, not pure oxygen.

DOCTOR:

It's seen or it's assumed that Flip is oxygen-based and it wants to protect her – but only for one hour. Why one hour?

JESSICA:

Better than seven minutes.

DOCTOR:

Indeed.

(F/X SPACEGUARD BLEEPS)

SALIM:

Doctor, Spaceguard reports Scavenger is moving.

DOCTOR:

It's on the hunt for oxygen. And I bet I know where it's going!

JESSICA:

Looks like it's heading for the Mandela.

DOCTOR:

Exactly. The Mandela will have vented breathable air when it opened the airlock. Scavenger must've been just close enough to detect that. And now it knows it needs it.

SALIM:

(INTO MIC) Flip, it's Salim. Is there anyone else there with you?

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Not Jyoti, I got her into the airlock then everything went... I dunno, pink. Can you get the Doctor back?

SALIM:

Doctor, your friend wants to –

(F/X TARDIS DEMATERIALISES OFF)

JESSICA:

Oh no! (CALLING) Security!!!

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Hello? Hello?

SALIM:

(INTO MIC) I'm sorry. He seems to have vanished.

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Superior power system detected. Scavenging.

(F/X SPACEGUARD BLEEP)

JESSICA:

There, on the screen. That's it! That's the Doctor's box!

SALIM:

He's trying to lure it away from the Mandela! And Scavenger's taking the bait!

SCENE 62. INT. TARDIS (IN FLIGHT)

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SCANNER) High level technology detected. Scavenging.

DOCTOR:

It's all take, take, take with you. Sorry to disappoint you, but I think you're far enough away from Mandela now.

(SETS SWITCHES)

DOCTOR:

Time for a really short hop.

(THROWS A LAST SWITCH)

SCENE 63. INT. MANDELA — BRIDGE

(F/X DOORS SWISH OPEN AS JYOTI ENTERS. THIS IS THE BRIDGE OF A STATION RATHER THAN A SHIP: THERE'S PLENTY ENOUGH GOING ON BUT IT'S NOT INCREDIBLY BUSY, IT'S MORE AIR-CONDITIONING THAN BATTLE STATIONS.

COMPUTER BLEEPS AND PEOPLE TYPING. THERE'S WORK CHATTER)

VARIOUS CREW:

Re-establishing the pizza box area around the station.

Thrusters at station-keeping.

Atmosphere cycling back to pattern.

NASA relaying Haystack data, no further alarms.

JYOTI:

Excuse me, Commander. Can I borrow a screen for a minute?

COMMANDER GABBARD:

We're busy, Jyoti. Take that console and stay out of the way.

JYOTI:

Thanks.

(SHE SITS AND SWITCHES ON CONTROLS)

(F/X TARDIS MATERIALISATION)

COMMANDER GABBARD:

What in the name of-

(F/X DOORS OPEN, DOCTOR BOUNDS OUT)

DOCTOR:

Hello, I'm the Doctor and -

JYOTI:

Doctor!

COMMANDER GABBARD:

Restrain that person!

DOCTOR:

No need, Commander, I won't be a moment. Jyoti, just the woman. I need oxygen tanks and a couple of space suits.

COMMANDER GABBARD:

You can't just appear on the Bridge of the Nelson Mandela International Space Station [and]

JYOTI:

It's okay, Commander, he's in my film.

JESSICA:

(OVER SPEAKER) ISRA calling Mandela. The alien Scavenger satellite is back on a collision course with you.

DOCTOR:

Already!

COMMANDER GABBARD:

The alien what? (TO JYOTI) Is this something to do with your film too?

JYOTI:

I'm afraid not.

JESSICA:

(OVER SPEAKER) At current speed, Scavenger will be with you in less than two minutes. Commander, I strongly recommend you evacuate.

COMMANDER GABBARD:

Why? What is this? What's going on?

DOCTOR:

What's going on, Commander, is that a robot spacecraft is on its way to the Mandela – and when it gets here, it's going to suck every last molecule of oxygen from your air supply, before stripping your station of anything useful that catches its mechanical eye.

COMMANDER GABBARD:

What?!

DOCTOR:

So evacuate, please. Because if the Scavenger *doesn't* do as it says – my friend Flip is going to die!

SCENE 64. INT. SCAVENGER

(F/X HELMET FX)

FLIP:

(GASPING INTO MIC) Air's... almost gone. I can't breathe. Doctor, someone – can you hear me? I can't... breathe! Doctor. Doctor...!

END OF PART TWO

PART THREE

REPRISE

FLIP:

(GASPING INTO MIC) Air's... almost gone. I can't breathe. Doctor, someone – can you hear me? I can't... breathe! Doctor. Doctor...!

(CONTINUES INTO:)

SCENE 65. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUED]

(F/X – HELMET ON FLIP THROUGHOUT)

(ANARKALI'S VOICE IS STEADY AND UNAFFECTED BY ANY ENGINE MOVEMENT, BUT ALSO MUFFLED BY FLIP'S HELMET FOR NOW.)

ANARKALI IS NO LONGER A REAL PERSON: SHE IS PART OF SCAVENGER; HER VOICE COMES FROM ALL AROUND FLIP – AND LATER, WHEN THE HELMET'S OPEN, IT'LL COME FROM WITHIN FLIP'S HEAD.)

FLIP:

(GIVING UP) Help me...

ANARKALI:

I will help you.

FLIP:

(TWISTING) What-? Who's there? I can't see you. I can't move...!

ANARKALI:

I'm a friend.

SCENE 66. INT. MANDELA — BRIDGE

(F/X MUCH QUIETER. EVERYONE'S EVACUATED EXCEPT THE DOCTOR AND JYOTI.)

JYOTI:

Evacuation's in progress, Doctor. The crew are all headed to the far modules.

DOCTOR:

Excellent. In which case, there's no-one left on the bridge to complain about my doing this.

(F/X SWITCHES AND BLEEPS)

JYOTI:

You can't raise the station orbit!

DOCTOR:

Almost nobody.

JYOTI:

Mandela stays in an area called the pizza box. It only moves within the box to avoid collisions with space junk.

DOCTOR:

A little up-thrust is all we need to get away from Scavenger.

JYOTI:

You don't understand. You can't blindly raise our orbit, we could crash straight into anything.

DOCTOR:

The Mandela may hit some small pieces of junk, that can't be helped, but its Whipple shields should protect it. It certainly won't survive being scavenged.

(F/X FINAL BLEEP. ROAR OF UPTHURST ALL AROUND)

SCENE 67. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

Scavenger should be onto the Mandela any moment now.

(F/X SPACEGUARD BLEEPS)

SALIM:

That's strange.

JESSICA:

Why? What have you got?

SALIM:

Spaceguard says the Mandela isn't — it's not where it's supposed to be!

SCENE 68. INT. SCAVENGER – CONTINUOUS

(F/X – HELMET ON FLIP THROUGHOUT)

ANARKALI:

Flip. Your name is Flip. Flip, you must open your mask.

FLIP:

(CROAKING: AIR RUNNING OUT) My helmet, are you nuts?

ANARKALI:

You must trust me, Flip. I'm your friend.

FLIP:

What the hey, nothing to lose. (STRUGGLING) No good. Can't reach the release. My arms are pinned. Wherever you are, help me!!!

ANARKALI:

I cannot. You must release the mechanism yourself.

FLIP:

Why? Is there air in here?

ANARKALI:

No. But Scavenger cannot begin to absorb you until you remove your mask. Then your pain will end.

FLIP:

(GASPING) What? Some friend you are.

SCENE 69. INT. MANDELA – BRIDGE

JYOTI:

Where's Scavenger now?

DOCTOR:

Circling below us. Trying to sniff out an oxygen source. Come on, Scavenger – work it out, you stupid machine!

JYOTI:

You don't want it to find us, do you?

DOCTOR:

Of course not.

JYOTI:

And what about Flip? Doctor, she's running out of time! Can't you use your box to rescue her? That's why you wanted spacesuits, isn't it?

DOCTOR:

The spacesuits are for us, in case Scavenger attacks. No – if I try to materialise my TARDIS inside that thing, the risk is it'll just end up scavenging the contents... me included. And that won't help Flip, will it? No, no – I need Scavenger to work out the obvious solution. I just wish it'd hurry up!!!

JYOTI:

What obvious solution? Doctor...?!

SCENE 70. INT. SCAVENGER

(F/X — HELMET ON FLIP THROUGHOUT)

ANARKALI:

I am sorry, Flip. We cannot locate oxygen.

FLIP:

(CROAKING) Oh, I want to go home. I really, really want to go home. Want to see London again. Proper London...

ANARKALI:

Do not speak, Flip. You are wasting your breath.

FLIP:

(REALISATION) ... home. That's it. Home! Scavenger, whoever you are, you've got to take me home! Right now! Take me home!

ANARKALI:

'Home'? We do not understand 'home'.

FLIP:

Earth, you moron! Earth! There's oxygen on Earth!

ANARKALI:

Earth.

(F/X SCAVENGER FIRING ENGINES)

SCENE 71. INT. MANDELA – BRIDGE

DOCTOR:

At last! There it goes, like a bullet!

JYOTI:

It's heading to Earth?

DOCTOR:

The nearest supply of oxygen it can be certain of finding!

SCENE 72. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

Look at that! Nothing we've got can move that quick. Do you know, this could even work out better than I promised.

SALIM:

Yes, it's great news. Scavenger is nowhere near the Mandela now.

JESSICA:

Oh, yeah, yeah, the Mandela. Can't be seen to damage the precious Mandela. No, I mean this could be good for industry.

SALIM:

British industry, I presume.

JESSICA:

Let's not fight over politics. We're on the same side now, Slim. We worked together to save the Mandela crew, that'll play great in the press. And we worked together to rescue those astronauts in space, too. Same thing.

SALIM:

The Doctor did that but, yes, sure, we stood near him while he did it.

JESSICA:

I don't see a Doctor. I don't remember a Doctor on the British payroll. Is he on the Indian team?

SALIM:

(BITTER) Rewriting history. You really are British.

JESSICA:

Through and through.

(F/X ALARMS)

SALIM:

Spaceguard and Haystack alarms. Scavenger is entering the atmosphere. Going very fast. She'll burn up at that speed, she has to!

JESSICA:

The Doctor's box didn't burn up. We can't presume Scavenger will. (SIGH) Oh, I so wanted its technology... but if it's coming to Earth, the situation's changed. We have to treat it as a threat.

SALIM:

So much for being on the same side. It listened to the Doctor, it might listen to me. (INTO MIC) Scavenger, you're going too fast, you'll burn up.

(BEAT)

(F/X BLEEPS)

SALIM:

See? — that's a course change. Not much of one. But it's a change.

(JESSICA PICKS UP A PHONE AND DIALS QUICKLY)

JESSICA:

(TO SALIM) No. Coincidence. It's already in a re-entry blind spot. No comms at that speed and approach, you know that. (INTO PHONE) Jessica Allaway, get me missile command right now.

SALIM:

What do you want 'missile command' for?

JESSICA:

Work it out, Slim.

SALIM:

Give me that.

(HE TRIES TO TAKE THE PHONE)

JESSICA:

(INTO PHONE) You've got an inbound bogie, ten o'clock high. Take it out.

(SALIM GETS THE PHONE FROM HER)

SALIM:

(INTO PHONE) Abort! Hello?

JESSICA:

They've got their orders and they're gone. Standard protocol. When Scavenger reaches 3,000 metres, a Rapier missile from HMS Ocean will destroy it. (A THREAT) Play along, Slim. For the team. No more attempts at sabotage.

SALIM:

Oh yes, 'sabotage'. That's what you've been saying to the press, isn't it? That the Salvage 2 mission was sabotaged by someone on my team? By me, even?

JESSICA:

Well, you did, didn't you? Fix the flight computer so Savage 2 would meet with Scavenger, not Envisat? – Look, I've said nothing outright. Might've hinted at it a bit. I'm sure we can come to some arrangement.

SALIM:

Oh, I see. So long as I say nothing about you having the power cut to mission control, right at the start of the mission?

JESSICA:

Prove it, big man.

SALIM:

Suddenly the whole complex loses power and you arrive. It doesn't take a genius.

JESSICA:

What can I say? I arrange a little power cut, Salvage 2 goes off course, Britain saves the day. It was all in the contract, Slim. We loan you a pitiful sum of money but should anything happen to go wrong, then we take over. We get the technology rights.

SALIM:

But nothing went wrong!

JESSICA:

Looks like it to me. Looks like it to the world. Satellites crashing? Mandela damaged?

SALIM:

I will tell the world the truth!

JESSICA:

Go right ahead. Go tell the press that you're really four hundred and ninety-six years old. Because they'll take everything you say so seriously after that.

(BEAT)

SALIM:

The air is getting stale around here. I am going outside.

(SALIM EXITS)

JESSICA:

(CALLS) If you're going to flounce off, be a lamb and get me some coffee?

SCENE 73. INT. SCAVENGER

(F/X — HELMET ON FLIP UNTIL INDICATED)

(ENGINE NOISE — AND THEN WHUMP, SCAVENGER IS IN THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE. ITS ENGINES ROAR LOUDER, THE WHOLE SATELLITE SHAKES AS IF IT'S GOING TO SHATTER)

(AND THEN THERE'S THE RUSH OF AIR TOO.)

(NOTE THAT FLIP SOUNDS BATTERED AND STRUGGLING BUT ANARKALI IS COMPLETELY UNCHANGED AND UNAFFECTED.)

ANARKALI:

Flip. We have entered the Earth's atmosphere. Open your mask, your glass bowl.

FLIP:

(SHOUTING, HOARSE, DYING) Pinned! Can't! Can't move —

(SHE GETS HER ARMS UP, THERE'S THE CRACK OF A BONE BREAKING —

FLIP:

(YELLS) Argh! My arm!

(SHE STRAINS ON BUT SHE GETS THERE. AND OPENS THE HELMET WITH A POP — LOSE FX ON FLIP'S DIALOGUE)

ANARKALI:

Now breathe.

(FLIP IS TRYING TO GET AIR INTO HER LUNGS, GULPING IT)

FLIP:

(ALMOST WEEPING) Air. Real air. Real Earth air...

SCENE 74. INT. MANDELA – BRIDGE

DOCTOR:

Altitude 4,500 metres. Normally I'd not recommend breathing at that height but it's better than nothing. For a short time, anyway.

JYOTI:

And it will be a short time.

DOCTOR:

Yes, that's also a bit worrying. Altitude now 4,100 metres. It's going so fast, will Flip's suit stand up to the changes in pressure?

JYOTI:

Not what I mean. Look at the screen. There's something inbound at 3,000 metres. Something very fast.

DOCTOR:

I see it. (INTO MIC) Doctor calling Indian Space Research centre, Salim, can you hear me?

JESSICA:

(OVER SPEAKERS) Jessica here, Doctor. Salim's gone off sulking, but I know what you want.

DOCTOR:

I want you to stop that missile.

JESSICA:

I just said, I know what you want.

DOCTOR:

Well?

JESSICA:

Yes, thanks. How are you?

SCENE 75. INT. SCAVENGER

FLIP:

Where are you? Are you below me? Please move these walls, I'm pressed into them and they're getting hot. Bad enough when they just made me claustrophobic.

ANARKALI:

All will be well, now your glass mask is off.

FLIP:

Air's strange. Hurts my throat. My arm hurts too. I think I've broken it.

ANARKALI:

It will not matter soon.

FLIP:

Scavenger, you're sounding scarily fatalistic now.

ANARKALI:

My name is not Scavenger. Scavenger is just a shell, intelligent enough to perform its tasks, to repair and replenish. My name is Anarkali.

FLIP:

(BLITHELY) Yeah, I know. — (BEAT) Hang on, how do I know?

ANARKALI:

The absorption started as soon as your glass bowl came off.

FLIP:

Absorption-?!

ANARKALI:

I am sorry, Flip. Once, I too was trapped here like you.

SCENE 76. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

(INTO MIC) Lovely to talk to you, Doctor, but I want to watch this. Bye.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) You're killing Flip!

JESSICA:

(INTO MIC) You don't really think she's still alive, do you? Out of oxygen, stuck in an alien satellite, burning up in the fastest re-entry I've ever seen. Come on.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Remember Salim! He got probed by the Scavenger centuries ago and he's still alive. Flip was brought on board by that same beam.

JESSICA:

(INTO MIC) Scavenger at 3,300 metres.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Call the missile off!

JESSICA:

(INTO MIC) No, I admit I was thinking Britain could do with this scavenging technology. But it's military protocol, you know? If you can stop Scavenger heading to Earth like it's going to blow right through the planet, you go for it. And I'll get some PR out of it at least.

(F/X SHE HANGS UP THE CONNECTION)

JESSICA:

(TO HERSELF) Now, if that long-life technology were real, that would be different.

(F/X PHONE RINGS. SHE ANSWERS)

JESSICA:

(INTO PHONE) Allaway. (BEAT) What do you mean, two-step authentication? Of course I really want the missile launched!

SCENE 77. INT. MANDELA – BRIDGE

JYOTI:

I'm sorry, Doctor. You did really well, saving the station and getting oxygen to Flip.

DOCTOR:

I don't need flattery, Jyoti.

JYOTI:

I'm serious. But now there's nothing else you can do.

DOCTOR:

There is always something else you can do. (INTO MIC)
Scavenger, this is the Doctor. Can you hear me? Can Flip hear me?

(F/X STATIC)

JYOTI:

Don't assume silence is bad. It just means they're still in re-entry blind spot.

DOCTOR:

No comms in or out. So Flip could be calling for me and I will never know.

JYOTI:

Altitude 3,000 metres. Missile on track. (BEAT) Goodness, Jessica Allaway is thorough.

DOCTOR:

Not what I'd say.

JYOTI:

I mean, look. There's a second missile launch from the HMS Ocean.

DOCTOR:

But that will take minutes to reach Scavenger. Why does she think it will still be there?

JYOTI:

Like I said, thorough.

DOCTOR:

Wait, HMS Ocean? Are both missiles from the HMS Ocean?

JYOTI:

Presumably, but I don't know. First missile impact estimated in... (BEAT) ... one minute.

DOCTOR:
Not if I can help it.

(F/X HE STARTS TYPING AND CONTROLS BLEEP ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)

SCENE 78. INT. SCAVENGER

FLIP:

Anarkali, what's this on the walls? My helmet was all fogged up, I couldn't see it before. Something written on the walls. (READING) "Could I behold..."

ANARKALI:

"Could I behold the face of my beloved once more."

FLIP:

(REALISATION) Blood? It's written in blood.

ANARKALI:

I did not think I would survive...

FLIP:

Know the feeling.

ANARKALI:

... and I was right.

FLIP:

Sorry?

SCAVENGER:

Identification: Scavenger. Weapons cycling. Range finding. Target focusing.

FLIP:

What's that mean? What's happening?

ANARKALI:

Something is about to strike Scavenger.

SCENE 79. INT. MANDELA — BRIDGE

(F/X DOCTOR TYPING ON KEYBOARD)

DOCTOR:

They really should change their passwords. Missile section.
Abort codes. (F/X FINISHES TYPING) There!

JYOTI:

You've done it?

DOCTOR:

I've aborted the missiles!

JYOTI:

With seconds to go.

DOCTOR:

As ever.

SCENE 80. INT. SCAVENGER

SCAVENGER:
Impact in three.

FLIP:
What's about to strike? Space junk?

SCAVENGER:
Two.

ANARKALI:
I do not know. We did not have such things in Lahore.

SCAVENGER:
One.

(BANG: AN ENORMOUS THUMPING WALLOP — BUT NOT AN EXPLOSION)

SCENE 81. INT. MANDELA – BRIDGE

DOCTOR:
I don't understand.

JYOTI:
Understand what? Doctor, you did it! You aborted the missiles, they exploded – there, you can see their debris trail on the scope.

DOCTOR:
If that's the case, where did Scavenger go? (JABBING SCREEN)
And what's that? That big blip flying left?

JYOTI:
It's not Scavenger, it's a completely different shape.

DOCTOR:
I need cameras. What's got cameras?

SCENE 82. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

(F/X DOORS. SALIM ENTERS)

JESSICA:

There you are. Salim, what did you do to my missile?

SALIM:

All I did was get us some coffee from your machine.

JESSICA:

While someone else just happened to detonate two Rapier missiles? Because it wasn't me and it wasn't Santa.

SALIM:

It wasn't me either. (SMIRK) I was a bit busy remotely flying Salvage 2.

JESSICA:

You were what-?

SALIM:

Email me a reprimand. Bring it up at my one-to-one. Salvage 2's orbit had come round, it was in range and its systems were fully restarted. I uploaded a fresh copy of the programming and told it Scavenger was the Clean Up Space target. It got there before your missile did. Scooped it up, swallowed it whole. And now it's on a very low Earth orbit trajectory that will take it up over India and down to just about right outside our front door.

JESSICA:

Really.

SALIM:

Really. Want a look? I'll switch on Salvage 2's cameras.

SCENE 83. INT. MANDELA — BRIDGE

DOCTOR:

A new camera source just came online.

JYOTI:

Salvage 2.

DOCTOR:

Switching now. I have been wondering, what happened to Salvage 1?

JYOTI:

Some moon project from a hundred years ago. Nothing to do with us.

DOCTOR:

I've got what seems to be a forward view from Salvage 2. But I'm only seeing sky. No sign of Scavenger. Checking rear. It's the same. Oh! Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

JYOTI:

Er, the weather's very nice there?

DOCTOR:

Scavenger is inside Salvage 2. And they're climbing to a low earth orbit, they'll be out of the comms blind spot. (INTO MIC) Scavenger, Flip, can you hear me?

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 84. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

(IT'S A BUMPY RIDE IN THERE AND FLIP IS BEING SHAKEN ABOUT.)

FLIP:

Doctor! Still got you in this helmet-mike thing. Listen, you're in danger!

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 85. INT. ISRA [CONTINUOUS]

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKERS) Everyone's in danger!

SALIM:

The Doctor's friend. She's alive. That's fantastic. She's alive, inside Scavenger! (THINKING ABOUT ANARKALI) And if she can survive...

JESSICA:

You know why that is, don't you?

SALIM:

Are you going to say it's because she's British?

JESSICA:

We're all thinking it.

SCENE 86. INT. MANDELA – BRIDGE

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Flip. It's good to hear your voice again. Try not to panic, the situation is under control.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) No, you've got to listen.

JYOTI:

(INTO MIC) Flip, it's okay. Just hang on and we'll rescue you. Won't we, Doctor?

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Of course we will.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Jyoti! You got away, that's so good. I was afraid you'd been snatched too, like me and Anarkali.

DOCTOR

(INTO MIC) Anarkali?! Did you say –

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Anarkali, yeah. She was here in Scavenger before me, until her mind got absorbed into it. She wrote a message on the wall, in blood: "Ah, could I behold the face of my beloved..."

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) What do you mean, absorbed?

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Anarkali. She was writing this while she was being absorbed, many centuries ago, before Scavenger went to sleep.

JYOTI:

Why was that, Doctor?

DOCTOR:

My guess is, Scavenger's alien masters sent it to Earth to look for high technology. When it didn't find anything it could use in the seventeenth century, it put itself into hibernation, waiting until Earth's technology was sufficiently developed to be worth scavenging.

JYOTI:

Or until it got woken up.

DOCTOR:

Until I woke it up, unfortunately. (CROSS TO:)

SCENE 87. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) It's so sad, Doctor. She wrote this note to her Prince. I know that because now I'm starting to absorb it, starting to feel how she felt.

SALIM:

(HUSHED) "The face of my beloved..."

JESSICA:

Salim? Are you okay?

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Anarkali is with you? Now?

SALIM:

You want something for so long. So long. Every day I wake up and I'm still alive, I'm still here. I couldn't die while she was gone.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Not exactly. It's like she's around, somehow. But she's helping me work something out, I think.

SALIM:

(INTO MIC) Anarkali, can you hear me? It's me. It's your prince.

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 88. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

SALIM:

(OVER SPEAKER) I've come for you, Anarkali!

(BEAT)

FLIP:

Anarkali? It's for you.

ANARKALI:

It's better if he thinks I'm dead.

FLIP:

No, it isn't. Why would you want him to think you're dead?

ANARKALI:

Because I am.

(F/X WALLOP, BANG, WHOOSH: SCAVENGER IS FIGHTING TO GET OUT OF SALVAGE 2. CROSS TO:)

SCENE 89. INT. MANDELA – BRIDGE [CONTINUOUS]

(THEY HEAR THE BANGING OVER THE SPEAKER)

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Flip, what's happening?

FLIP:

(ROCKED ABOUT – OVER SPEAKER) I dunno, Scavenger's being smacked about. Where are we? Is this re-entry?

JYOTI:

(INTO MIC) You're in the Salvage 2 ship and it's taking you to a low-level Earth orbit.

DOCTOR:

Of course, it's Scavenger. It's trying to batter its way out of Salvage 2!

(F/X BANGING STOPS)

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Salvage 2 containment weakening. System assessing enemy assets.

DOCTOR:

(TO JYOTI) I've got to get to her. How do I get to her?

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Doctor, Anarkali says Scavenger is about to do something.

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) So am I. Hold fast, Flip. I'm on my way.

(HE HEADS FOR THE TARDIS; OPENS THE DOOR)

JYOTI:

Doctor – I thought Scavenger would only absorb your box, your TARDIS, if you went there in it?

DOCTOR:

Most likely it will. But I don't see I'm left with any other option, do you?

JYOTI:

Brilliant. I'll get my camera.

DOCTOR:

No. Jyoti, stay here.

JYOTI:

You just don't want me in your box.

DOCTOR:

I'm taking this headset, so I can patch it through the TARDIS scanner. Keep the line open, I may yet need your help.

(F/X SHUTS THE DOOR)

(F/X TARDIS DEMATERIALISES)

SCENE 90. INT. SCAVENGER

FLIP:

Doctor? Are you there?

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) I'll give him this, he knows how to make an exit.

(F/X TARDIS STARTS TO MATERIALISE)

FLIP:

And an entrance.

SCAVENGER:

Identification: TARDIS.

FLIP:

How does it know that? – Oh, yeah. Cos I do.

(F/X TARDIS STRUGGLING TO MATERIALISE)

SCENE 91. INT. TARDIS – CONTROL ROOM

(IN FLIGHT AND STRAINING TO MATERIALISE THROUGH:)

DOCTOR:

You don't want to land there, do you, old girl? You know it's not safe, that you'll only get scavenged. Alright, then – let's try something. (INTO MIC) Doctor calling ISRA Mission Control. Jessica, distract Scavenger, explode a missile near it!

(NO ANSWER)

DOCTOR:

Marvellous. The moment I actually do want her to bring out the military, she can't hear.

SCENE 92. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

(F/X DRAWN-OUT MATERIALISATION SOUNDS – THE TARDIS DOESN'T WANT TO LAND)

FLIP:

Anarkali! Anarkali! How do I stop telling Scavenger stuff about the TARDIS?

ANARKALI:

You cannot. It is part of the absorption process. Yes... I sense Scavenger failed to take the 'TARDIS' before, but now it knows more.

FLIP:

What do I know? I don't know anything about how it works!

ANARKALI:

More than that, even. Everything it knows of the Earth is of the Earth as it was in my time. But you, you know everything about the Earth in the present day.

FLIP:

Yeah, it might come a bit unstuck with that.

ANARKALI:

That is what it wants. Tactical information.

FLIP:

I promise you I wouldn't know a tactic if I ate one.

ANARKALI:

Wait. I can see someone in your mind. Who is this man? So important to you. (BEAT) You travel with your own physician?

FLIP:

And now I can see someone in yours. That's Salim? You got yourself a hot royal?

ANARKALI:

We are linked. We are exchanging knowledge.

FLIP:

Weirdest girly chat I've ever had. –

(F/X TARDIS MATERIALISATION FADES AWAY)

SCAVENGER:

TARDIS scavenge... aborted.

FLIP:

Doctor! Don't go!

ANARKALI:

Scavenger... gave up. Why did Scavenger give up? – Yes. Yes, I know why.

SCAVENGER:

Identification: Salvage 2. Programming absorbed. Hull defences neutralised. Disengaging.

FLIP:

What-?

ANARKALI:

Hold on, Flip. Scavenger is about to break out!

(F/X BANG! SCAVENGER BLASTS OUT OF SALVAGE 2 AND INTO FLIGHT IN THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE, HEADING FOR ORBIT.)

SCENE 93. EXT. ISRA – SPACE CENTRE BUILDING

(IT'S THE SAME EXTERIOR AS BEFORE BUT THE HOARDS OF REPORTERS AND PRESS ARE A LITTLE WAY OFF. WE'RE WITH SALIM AND JUST ONE OF THEM: OUR TV REPORTER FROM BEFORE.)

SALIM:

Thanks for seeing me, Ms Fletcher.

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

Can't say I'm not intrigued. An exclusive, you said?

SALIM:

So long as you understand, you didn't get this from me.

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

Get what?

SALIM:

Everything that goes on inside Mission Control is recorded, that's just standard. That's how I acquired this:

(F/X BLEEP OF SMARTPHONE. EXCERPT PLAYS, FROM SCENE 72:)

SALIM:

[...] long as I say nothing about you having the power cut to mission control, right at the start of the mission?

JESSICA:

Prove it, big man.

SALIM:

Suddenly the whole complex loses power and you arrive. It doesn't take a genius.

JESSICA:

What can I say? I arrange a little power cut, Salvage 2 goes off course, Britain saves the day. It was all in the contract, Slim.

(F/X SWITCHES OFF RECORDING)

SALIM:

Is that enough to give you a story?

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

Broadcast quality, too.

SCENE 94. INT. MANDELA — BRIDGE

JYOTI:

(INTO MIC) Flip, Doctor, are you okay? Scope's showing multiple targets, it's like you've exploded. You haven't exploded, have you?

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKERS) Feels like it!

SCENE 95. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

(CALLING) Security! Salim! Anyone! (TO HERSELF) I need minions.

(F/X TARDIS MATERIALISES)

JESSICA:

He'll do. (FX: DOOR OPENS) Doctor, what have you done to Scavenger?

DOCTOR:

Is it still there? Good.

JESSICA:

Looks like you blew it apart.

(F/X DOOR OFF, SALIM ENTERING)

DOCTOR:

No, that's Salvage 2.

SALIM:

Doctor? What did you do? I had Salvage 2 twenty minutes from landing!

DOCTOR:

It wasn't me. Scavenger has broken out of Salvage 2.

JESSICA:

You can see the debris trail. Built to clean up space junk, but that's what it's become. Ironic.

DOCTOR:

That's not the problem, Ms Allaway. I'm very much afraid that Salvage 2 will have told Scavenger everything it knows. Course programmes, algorithms; anything it can use.

SALIM:

So, what? It's coming here?

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKERS) Processing: Salvage 2 Software Program. Program absorbed. Weapons ready.

SCENE 97. INT. SCAVENGER

(VERY NOISY: IT'S STILL IN ATMOSPHERE. FLIP STILL BEING BATTERED ABOUT. ANARKALI STILL PERFECTLY QUIET AND CALM. UNAFFECTED.)

ANARKALI:

This is new. I sense Scavenger wants to... salvage things? It wants to Clean Up Space?

FLIP:

Cleaning up sounds good.

SCAVENGERS:

Weapons ranging.

FLIP:

Ranging on [what?]

(SUDDEN ACCELERATION PRESSES AGAINST FLIP. SHE STRUGGLES TO FINISH THE SENTENCE)

FLIP

Whoa! Scavenger, slow down! Slow down!!!

SCENE 98. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

SALIM:

It's whipped right around the Earth and is flying over Pakistan. Wait, now crossing into Rajasthan. So fast!

DOCTOR:

How can it get that speed in low Earth orbit?

SALIM:

It's not risen above the ionosphere. It's achieving that speed in atmosphere.

JESSICA:

Compare tech specs later, would you? It's slowing down.

DOCTOR:

And heading for —

DOCTOR/SALIM:

(SIMULTANEOUSLY) New Delhi.

DOCTOR:

Why there? It's a lovely city but why there? Why now?

SALIM:

A lot of the flight software was written in New Delhi. Does it know that? How could it know that?

DOCTOR:

It knows everything Salvage 2 knows.

SCENE 99. INT. SCAVENGER

(DECELERATING)

FLIP:

Oh, I can breathe again. (HEAVES) Where are we?

ANARKALI:

Hastinapur.

SCAVENGER:

New program. Clean Up Earth begins. Cycling weapon emitters.
Firing.

FLIP:

Scavenger, no!!!

(F/X FROM INSIDE — SCAVENGER BEGINS FIRING LASERS DOWN ON NEW
DELHI. CROSS TO:)

SCENE 100. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

(F/X TV SHOWING LASER BLASTS ON THE CITY)

JESSICA:

It's all over the citizen news networks, see?

SALIM:

What's it doing?

JESSICA:

Firing on New Delhi, obviously. (BEAT) That is some technology.

DOCTOR:

What it's doing is cleaning up Earth.

SALIM:

Cleaning up Earth-?!

DOCTOR:

Scavenger seems to have got its wires crossed. Right now, it sees humankind as – well, junk. (INTO MIC) Scavenger, this is the Doctor. Your program is in error. Shut down and stand by for further instructions. Repeat, shut down and stand by for [further instructions.]

JESSICA:

It's not listening, Doctor. (INTO PHONE) Jessica Allaway, authority niner-niner-seven. Get me missile command right now.

DOCTOR:

Ms Allaway, please! I'll think of something!!!

JESSICA:

I don't see what. Tell me you really think this 'Flip' person is more important than the lives of everyone in New Delhi? (INTO PHONE) Missile Command, this is your second authorisation. No countermands. Launch when ready.

SCENE 101. INT. SCAVENGER

(ENGINE NOISES PLUS FIRING OUTSIDE THE HULL.)

FLIP:
Scavenger! Cease firing!

(BEAT)

FLIP:
Nothing. Nothing.

ANARKALI:
Scavenger, this is your host. Stop.

SCAVENGER:
Identification: Anarkali.

FLIP:
Great, it's listening to you.

SCAVENGER:
Identification: host replaced. Host updated. Purging previous host.

FLIP:
No! Scavenger! I'm your new host, listen to me. Tactical advantage to keeping Anarkali! She's - it's - she's - she - she knows Salim! She knows people on Earth right now.

SCAVENGER:
Purge cancelled.

ANARKALI:
Thank you. You saved me.

FLIP:
Yeah, well, hurry up and help me think of a tactical reason to make Scavenger stop firing! - I seriously need some tactics.

SCENE 102. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

Well, Spaceguard is useful, isn't it, Doctor? Look. I'd say that's a full-strike complement of missiles. In the air. Unstoppable.

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Incoming targets.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Doctor? Doctor, help me! Help me think of a reason to make it stop!

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) I can't. Flip, I need you to think of somewhere far away. Of a journey you'd like to make.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) What-?

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Missiles ranged and focused.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Missiles-?! Scavenger doesn't have m-

DOCTOR:

Please, Flip. Close your eyes. Focus.

SALIM:

Contact in twenty seconds.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) I get it. The missiles aren't Scavenger's. They're coming at Scavenger, aren't they? They're shooting Scavenger down, and me with it!

DOCTOR:

I mean it, Flip. Think of somewhere far away. It won't hurt if you think of some place far away.

JESSICA:

"Some place far away." It's what they say to prisoners facing execution, isn't it? They say it helps.

SALIM:

Ten seconds to impact. Nine. Eight. Seven. Six. Five. Four. –

(SIMULTANEOUSLY, TO END ON SALIM'S 'FOUR':)

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) I've been everywhere, Doctor. You've taken me everywhere I wanted to go. It's been brilliant.

DOCTOR:

Not quite everywhere. Think, Flip, think!

SALIM:

Three. Two. One.

(F/X COMMS BUZZ FROM SCAVENGER CUTS OUT)

(BEAT)

JESSICA:

Look. TV's reporting a fireball over New Delhi.

DOCTOR:

She's gone.

END OF PART THREE

PART FOUR

REPRISE:

SALIM:

Ten seconds to impact. Nine. Eight. Seven. Six. Five. Four. —

(SIMULTANEOUSLY, TO END ON SALIM'S 'FOUR':)

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) I've been everywhere, Doctor. You've taken me everywhere I wanted to go. It's been brilliant.

DOCTOR:

Not quite everywhere. Think, Flip, think!

SALIM:

Three. Two. One.

(F/X COMMS BUZZ FROM SCAVENGER CUTS OUT)

(BEAT)

JESSICA:

Look. TV's reporting a fireball over New Delhi.

DOCTOR:

She's gone.

(CONTINUES INTO:)

SCENE 103. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUED]

SALIM:

(HUSHED) Anarkali. My whole life. All this long, long life, devoted to getting you back and now —

JESSICA:

Your faces. I just saved a city, I'm having a great day.

DOCTOR:

That's enough, Ms Allaway. Please — be quiet.

(F/X FUZZ, FLICKERING FROM SPEAKERS. SUDDENLY:)

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKERS) [Going] so fast! Slow down! Slow down!!!

SALIM:

But that's — that's impossible!

DOCTOR:
Thank goodness.

JESSICA:
Scavenger's not there. It's gone!

DOCTOR:
Gone, yes. Scavenger took off for its next destination before Flip had even finished thinking where it was she wanted to go.

JESSICA:
What-?

DOCTOR:
Flip is becoming part of Scavenger. Its host. I gambled that Flip's desire to be elsewhere would override Scavenger's desire to clean up Earth. For now, it seems I was right. (INTO MIC) Flip? Flip, can you hear me?

(F/X YOU KNOW THOSE SCI-FI FILMS THAT SHOW ACCELERATION BY BLASTING THE HEROES' FACES WITH WIND SO MUCH THAT THEIR SKIN RIPPLES? THAT'S WHAT IS HAPPENING TO FLIP.)

FLIP:
(OVER SPEAKER) CAN'T - CAN'T TALK!

JESSICA:
And yet she does.

DOCTOR:
(INTO MIC) We're going to try to get a fix on you. Just hold on a little while longer.

SALIM:
Doctor - does this mean Anarkali has cheated death, too?

DOCTOR:
Salim - I'm sorry, but Anarkali cannot still be alive. She has to have died hundreds of years ago. Flip is alone up there. Physically, at least.

JESSICA:
If Salim here really is as old as he says, if Scavenger's beam did that to him - well, why can't his girlfriend be alive?

SALIM:
Now she believes. Doctor?

DOCTOR:

Salim, you and Anarkali were probed by the same beam and your ageing was stalled. But that has to have been a byproduct. Scavenger needs hosts and it protects them, it goes to huge lengths to protect them, but only for as long as it takes to absorb them into its workings. One hour, that's what it said.

SALIM:

I feel ill.

JESSICA:

Anarkali's mind was scavenged and then it let her body die. Starved to death.

DOCTOR:

Scavenger was in orbit, I daresay Anarkali would have died from oxygen starvation first. It would have been quick.

SALIM:

Died between those two walls.

DOCTOR:

I'm sorry. But that's what's going to happen to Flip, as soon as her absorption is complete. And we've got less than an hour to stop it.

SALIM:

Then – then we must do what we can to bring her home.

(F/X TRACKING NOISES)

JESSICA:

Got to catch her first.

DOCTOR:

Is that Scavenger's trail?

JESSICA:

It's changing course like mad. It was heading for the Azores a minute ago, then Malta. Now it looks like... Crete?

SALIM:

Your friend was thinking of all those places at once?

DOCTOR:

No. Only one.

SCENE 104. INT. SCAVENGER

(ACCELERATION SLOWING)

FLIP:

At last. Slowing down.

(THE ACCELERATION STOPS)

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Flip? Flip, can you hear me?

FLIP:

Just about. Still wedged, by the way. Any time you want to rescue me from wherever we've got to...

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Exactly where you thought of. Exactly where you told me where you wanted to visit, all that time ago, back on Tranquillity...?

FLIP:

Atlantis? Seriously?

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 105. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

JESSICA:
(SCORNFUL) Atlantis!

SALIM:
Where in the world is Atlantis?

DOCTOR:
Atlantis is... complicated. There are several possible places it might be. It looks like Scavenger's trying them all.

JESSICA:
At least it won't be 'cleaning up' any more cities, while it's trying to make up its mind.

DOCTOR:
Precisely. (INTO MIC) Scavenger, report status.

FLIP:
(IN SCAVENGER-LIKE VOICE) Did you do that... Doctor? Did you rescue me from inbound targets, full-strike spread, no compass gap, no altitude gap, ranged and bearing, brace for impact, launch log and –

(F/X CROSS BACK TO:)

SCENE 106. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

FLIP:

(BACK TO HER OWN VOICE) Doctor, it's using my voice! Doctor!

ANARKALI:

Scavenger is absorbing you. You are absorbing Scavenger.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) I'm afraid you and Scavenger are merging.

FLIP:

That's what she just said.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Sorry? I didn't hear anyone.

SCENE 107. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

SALIM:

Doctor, she doesn't believe she's alone up there.

(F/X BUZZ/FIZZ STATIC)

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) Doctor? Doctor, it's Jyoti onboard the Mandela.

DOCTOR:

Hold on, Flip. Important message coming through.

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 108. INT. MANDELA — BRIDGE [CONTINUOUS]

JYOTI:

Doctor, the Mandela's coming off alert and the crew's going to be returning to the bridge soon. I can't stay for much longer.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Quickly, then. Let's take stock of our assets. Is anything docked with the Mandela right now?

(F/X KEYBOARDS AND BLEEPS)

JYOTI:

Nothing. Well, two food supply drones.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Can you fly them?

JYOTI:

I said, they're empty drones, no pilots.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Yes, but can you fly them?

JYOTI:

I can control them remotely from the Mandela, yes.

(F/X CROSS BACK TO:)

SCENE 109. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

DOCTOR:

Check their status, Jyoti. Fuel capacity, maximum speeds, the lot.

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) Okay, hold on, I'll be –

(F/X CUT OFF BY FLIP COMING BACK IN)

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) [I'll] just talk to myself, shall I? Sorry, Anarkali, I know you're here too.

SALIM:

What did she say-?

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) I mean, who's so important? Doctor?

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Flip, do you remember the name of the astronaut you saved on the Mandela?

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Course I do! – Oh, I get it. This is like, 'what day is it, who's the Prime Minister'?

DOCTOR:

Something like that, yes.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Jyoti. Jyoti Cutler. And my useless boyf, his name's Jared, and my even more useless little brother, he's Philip. Satisfied?

DOCTOR:

Philip? That's... interesting.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Philippa and Philip, yeah. Do you think they wanted a boy much?

SALIM:

I can't take this. (INTO MIC) Flip, put Anarkali on.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER, CALLING) Yeah, alright. Anarkali? Anarkali, the Prince here wants to talk to you!

(BEAT)

SALIM:

I can't hear anything. Why can't I hear anything?

DOCTOR:

(WHISPER, ASIDE) I told you, Salim – Anarkali was absorbed centuries ago. She's speaking in Flip's head because Flip is also being absorbed.

SALIM:

She is – in Flip...?

DOCTOR:

(WHISPER, ASIDE) Inside the host. Best if we don't let on for now.

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Alright, you two, we'll get you a room soon enough. Happy now, your highness?

SALIM:

(LYING) Yes. Thank you, Flip.

(F/X SCAVENGER ENGINES SLOWING THROUGH)

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) No worries. – Hold up, Scavenger's slowing. Wherever we are, I think we've arrived.

(F/X CROSS BACK TO:)

110. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Scavenger, report status please.

FLIP:

(AS SCAVENGER) Identification: Atlantis. (BEAT) Correction. Identification not possible. (AS HERSELF) I could've told you that. There's no such place, I just remember it from a TV show. (BEAT) No, I don't know anything more than that. (BEAT) It's like talking to yourself. Anarkali, how do you stand it? ...

(F/X CROSS BACK TO:)

SCENE 111. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) ... Anarkali?

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Stand by, Flip. (F/X SWITCHES MIC OFF) Jessica, Salim. Scavenger has come to a halt right where it thinks Atlantis was.

JESSICA:

The Canary Islands?

DOCTOR:

Yes. Completely wrong, of course, but that's not important now. (INTO MIC) Jyoti? Are you there, Jyoti?

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) Still here, Doctor.

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Tell me about those drones aboard the Mandela.

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) They're both about fifty percent fuelled. Typical re-entry path takes four orbits, so we could get them to Scavenger if you need.

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Then they'll do.

SALIM:

Why? What are you planning, Doctor?

DOCTOR:

I can't land aboard Scavenger in my TARDIS, not without the risk of Scavenger scavenging its technology. I can't give away the TARDIS's secrets so easily.

JESSICA:

Pity.

SALIM:

So you're going to save Flip, how?

DOCTOR:

By putting herself in my place. I flatter myself that Scavenger will view me as a rather more tempting host. I fly to Scavenger in the first drone, allow myself to be scavenged, release Flip into the second drone... and have Jyoti fly her back to the Mandela.

SALIM:

Even if your plan works, that won't stop Scavenger.

DOCTOR:

My mind won't be quite so easily absorbed, I hope. If it comes to a battle of wills between me and that machine, I might be able to batter it into submission.

JESSICA:

'Might'!

DOCTOR:

It's a risk, I admit, but it's the best I have to offer against the certainty that very soon, Scavenger will complete its absorption of Flip and set about cleaning up Earth again. (INTO MIC) Jyoti? Are you still there?

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) Still here, Doctor.

DOCTOR:

Get those drones ready to launch. I'll be at the Mandela supply bay in just a few moments.

JYOTI:

Can't meet you there, I'm afraid. I've had to barricade the flight crew out of the bridge.

DOCTOR:

What?

JYOTI:

Yeah, I don't think the Commander's at all happy about it.

DOCTOR:

No matter, so long as you can fly those drones. I'm on my way. In the meantime, my friend Salim will fill you in on the plan.

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) Hurry up, then. (BEAT) The Commander's trying to cut through the bulkhead, I think.

DOCTOR:

(GETTING UP) Salim, Ms Allaway. Try to behave yourselves in my absence. (WALKING TO TARDIS) I'll be back later.

JESSICA:

No, you won't.

DOCTOR:

(F/X OPENING THE TARDIS DOOR) Do you know, people usually believe me when I say that?

SALIM:

Go, Doctor. Do what you can for your friend.

(F/X TARDIS DOOR CLOSES. DEMATERIALISES.)

JESSICA:

If he does come back, I am having that box of his.

SALIM:

(INTO MIC) Jyoti? Miss Cutler? The plan is this –

COMMANDER GABBARD:

(OVER SPEAKER) This isn't Jyoti Cutler. This is Gabbard, on the Mandela.

SALIM:

Commander Gabbard?

JYOTI:

(OFF, OVER SPEAKER) I'm sorry-!

COMMANDER GABBARD:

Miss Cutler is relieved of duty, pending an investigation into her actions in the aftermath of the collision earlier today. The collision caused by your 'Clean Up Space' mission – Mister Jahangir!

SALIM:

I can explain everything –

COMMANDER GABBARD:

Explain it to the inquiry. Mandela out.

(F/X LINE DEAD)

JESSICA:

There goes the Doctor's plan.

SALIM:

Then we shall have to think of an alternative.

SCENE 112. INT. SCAVENGER

FLIP:

(WEAKENING) Doctor... please, hurry...

ANARKALI:

You are nearly absorbed. It was at this point that I wrote my message for Salim.

FLIP:

I'm not writing anything in blood, thank you very much. The Doctor's on his way. The Doctor'll fix it. I know he will. I just wish he'd hurry up about it.

ANARKALI:

Don't be afraid.

FLIP:

I'm not – okay, you already know, of course you already know. I'm a little scared. Okay?

ANARKALI:

It will not hurt. Scavenger repairs as it replaces.

FLIP:

How does that work, then?

ANARKALI:

Feel your arm, Flip. Is it still broken?

FLIP:

Course it is, it can't just mend – hang about. It's alright, it's fixed. My arm's alright!

ANARKALI:

Just as your strange suit has been repaired, and the bottled air you brought has been replenished.

FLIP:

Sixty minutes on the oxygen counter. How'd it do that, without my noticing?

ANARKALI:

Just as your mind is becoming part of Scavenger, so your body is becoming part of Scavenger, too.

FLIP:

So Scavenger thinks my spacesuit is part of me – that's why it's fixed it, right?

ANARKALI:

Scavenger needs you in perfect condition, to be perfectly absorbed.

FLIP:

(SOTTO) Big mistake, Scavenger. Big, big mistake!

ANARKALI:

What are you thinking, Flip? Scavenger wants to know.

FLIP:

If my mind is in Scavenger's, Scavenger can see for itself, can't it?

ANARKALI:

Scavenger sees... ice. It feels... cold. It sees you alone, flying above a frozen lake on a... "micro-lite"? Is this is a memory of yours?

FLIP:

No kidding.

ANARKALI:

It sees you with someone called.. Dare? You at the controls of technological device called a... a "tele-port"!

FLIP:

I'm seeing you now, in Lahore, all those years ago. The pink beam that took you away, remember? That's how Scavenger brought us here, me and you both. By teleport!

ANARKALI:

You know what "teleport" is?

FLIP:

Do I ever. That's how I got here... and that's how I'm getting off!

SCENE 113. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

(F/X SHOWER OF SPARKS)

SALIM:
There, that's freed it.

JESSICA:
The flight computer for Salvage 2? What d'you need that for?

SALIM:
Never you mind.

JESSICA:
Oh, I get it. You think destroying that's going to help bury the evidence of your sabotage? I've got news for you, Salim –

SALIM:
Everything's backed up remotely, I know. And I'm not destroying it.

JESSICA:
Well, what exactly are you doing with it, then?

(F/X TARDIS MATERIALISING, JUST OFF. DOOR OPENS)

DOCTOR:
Well, that didn't go according to plan.

JESSICA:
Doctor! Did you not get the welcome you were hoping for aboard the Mandela?

DOCTOR:
Two surprisingly burly astronauts tried to arrest me when I landed in the supply drone bay.

JESSICA:
What, so you ran away?

DOCTOR:
Discretion is sometimes the better part of valour, Ms Allaway. More to the point, I wouldn't exactly have been in a position to enact Plan B – would I now?

JESSICA:
You're just making it up as you go along!

DOCTOR:
All will become clear. Salim – what are you doing, disconnecting that flight computer?

SALIM:

Just salvaging what I can from Salvage 2.

DOCTOR:

Oh, really? Because for a moment there I thought you might have been hoping to tempt Scavenger into some sort of exchange.

JESSICA:

What do you mean, 'exchange'?

DOCTOR:

Scavenger grabbed both Flip and Anarkali by means of what I can only describe as a teleport beam. It finds itself a suitable host, then teleports them aboard in order to absorb them.

JESSICA:

So?

SALIM:

So the Doctor and I are about to argue over which of us will offer ourselves up as an alternative host, in exchange for Flip.

DOCTOR:

I believe that Salim intends to take the flight computer with him. A piece of high technology to offer as some kind of sweetener?

JESSICA:

Oh, a bribe! Fair enough, I get that.

DOCTOR:

I'm afraid, Salim, that it's a very meagre offering, compared to the contents of a Time Lord's brain.

SALIM:

Let me, Doctor. Anarkali was absorbed. If I am too, it will be a kind of being together.

DOCTOR:

Scavenger rejected you once before, remember?

SALIM:

I got over my cough five centuries ago. It will take me.

DOCTOR:

And I woke up Scavenger. Unintentionally, I admit, and only because you, my friend, set the process in motion. But nonetheless, this is my responsibility. (INTO MIC) Doctor to Scavenger. Status update, please.

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 114. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

FLIP:

Doctor! You're back! Just hold on, I'm busy –

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Busy doing what?

FLIP:

Just poking around Scavenger with my mind. Looking for the teleport controls. (SOTTO) Don't tell Scavenger, but I'm hoping I can find a way to beam myself right out of here.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) No, I don't think that's a good idea.

FLIP:

It's alright, Scavenger knows what I'm doing. But it's absorbed so much of me, there's not a lot it can do about it.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Sever the mental link between yourself and Scavenger too abruptly, and you could cause terrible damage to your mind.

FLIP:

Then I'll fit right back in, back on the checkout at Freshgoods, won't I?

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Freshgoods? Who's talking about Freshgoods?

FLIP:

Doctor, please! I'm trying to concentrate!

ANARKALI:

Tell him you've reached the – you're calling it a hard disk? So many new words. New ideas.

FLIP:

Not sure I'm doing it right, though. I put a bigger drive in my PC once. Wished I hadn't started. It was all drivers and jumpers and throwing salt over my shoulder –

SCAVENGER:

Identification: Jared.

FLIP:

Alright, it was Jared did it. But I bought the drive. Blimey, you can tell Scavenger's a man, can't you?

ANARKALI:

Computers sound wonderful. I expect a slave girl like me would never have had one.

FLIP:

You'd have had a smartphone with a computer in it. It would be tiny and very fashionable. (BEAT) I've found something. So strange to be poking about with my mind and finding things. But I think this is a kind of app store.

SCAVENGER:

Security. Owner authentication required.

ANARKALI:

I don't know what that means.

FLIP:

It means that, unless you know who built Scavenger and what their favourite password is, we've reached a dead end. It's not like the password will be 'Scavenger'.

SCAVENGER:

Authentication: failed.

FLIP:

No! No! I was kidding!

SCAVENGER:

Security breach detected. Returning to orbit for self-diagnosis.

FLIP:

No! Stupid machine!!!

(F/X ENGINES ROAR. CROSS TO:)

SCENE 115: INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

JESSICA:

Oh! Look, Scavenger's moving. Straight up in the air.

SALIM:

It's going into orbit.

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Flip! Find the teleport! The pink beam! Before you're out of range! ...

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 116. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKERS) ... Point it at us, here in Mission Control!

FLIP:

Just need to get a little bit more absorbed first.

(F/X BANG! SOMETHING SMASHES INTO SCAVENGER)

FLIP:

What was that?

SCENE 117: TV NEWS REPORT

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

India's government has confirmed that the Space Research Centre has been under British control since the accident, but that –

(F/X SMASH, FIZZ, BANG AS THE NEWSHUB SATELLITE IS DESTROYED)

SCENE 118. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

SALIM:

That's two live satellites it's just rammed through.

JESSICA:

I think we've got an opportunity here. Earth's close to the Kessler tipping point, when we won't be able to launch anything into space at all. But if Britain had Scavenger technology.. And no-one else did..

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Flip, how much air is in Scavenger?

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Not to worry, my tanks are topped up, thanks to Scavenger. I'm all ready to go, just as soon [as]

DOCTOR:

That's not what I meant!

(F/X CROSS TO:)

SCENE 119. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

FLIP:

Trying to concentrate, Doctor! I'm keeping my helmet open while I check out the teleport. I tell you, I'm an expert. I could get a job doing this, if they had them in 2011.

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) No, Flip, seal your helmet. Scavenger's reaching orbit, you can't have more than moments of air.

FLIP:

There! Doctor, I've got it, I've got the hunt-gather teleport log! Right: helmet on...

(F/X CLUNK-CLICK AS SHE SEALS HELMET. IT SNAPS SHUT WITH A HISS OF OXYGEN. HER VOICE IS MUFFLED.)

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Flip, please! This isn't going to work!

FLIP:

Shut up, will you? All I have to do is, well 'undo' the last journey in the log, aaaand...

DOCTOR:

(OVER SPEAKER) Stupid girl, it isn't safe!

FLIP:

I know what I'm doing! Sending the 'undo' command - now.

(F/X TELEPORT BEAM APPEARS, AS IN PART TWO LAHORE SCENES)

FLIP:

The pink beam! It's here! I can see it! I can...

(F/X SHE'S TELEPORTED AWAY)

ANARKALI:

(ECHOING IN FLIP'S HEAD, AS SHE DISAPPEARS) Goodbye, Flip.

SCENE 120. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Security. Host failure. Initiate repair/replace programs.

JESSICA:

'Host failure'? What's that mean?

DOCTOR:

It means, Flip's gone. We need to rescan, see if we can pick up her helmet mic.

SALIM:

No time for that, Scavenger needs a replacement host – and it's going to get one! (INTO MIC) Scavenger, it's me, Salim. Crown Prince Salim, remember me?

SCAVENGER:

(OVER SPEAKER) Replacement host identified.

SALIM:

You're talking to me, you must be in range. Can you lock onto the source of my transmission?

DOCTOR:

Salim, Anarkali is dead, and you won't be able to hold out against Scavenger.

SALIM:

Jessica – pick up that flight computer, will you?

JESSICA:

I don't fetch and carry!

SALIM:

I don't want you to. I want you to whack the Doctor on the head with it.

DOCTOR:

Salim, don't be absurd– (WHACKED; COLLAPSES UNCONSCIOUS)

JESSICA:

What can I say? He twisted my arm.

SALIM:

Now, give it to me. (CALLING) Scavenger! I'm here! I'm ready!

(F/X BEAM APPEARS, AS BEFORE)

JESSICA:

There it is. You really think you can control Scavenger, Slim?

SALIM:

I know I can. But if I can't — nuke me.

JESSICA:

Don't worry, I will.

SALIM:

(STEPPING INTO THE BEAM) Anarkali, I'm coming to you. Anarkali

—

(F/X HE'S TELEPORTED AWAY. CROSS TO:)

SCENE 121. INT. SCAVENGER [CONTINUOUS]

(F/X TELEPORT BEAM ARRIVES)

SCAVENGER:
Identification: host.

SALIM:
After so long!

(BREATHING IS DIFFICULT)

SALIM:
Anarkali? Can you hear me? (BEAT) Scavenger, absorb me quickly.
Quickly. (CALLING) Indian Space Research Control, can you hear
me?

JESSICA:
(OVER SPEAKER) I hear you, Slim.

SALIM:
Jessica, I've got to read you something. While I still can.
Anarkali wrote me a message and it's right here on the two
walls. (STRUGGLES TO BREATHE) Scavenger, faster. It reads: "Ah!
Could I behold the face of my beloved once more, I would give
thanks until my God unto the day of resurrection. Until that
day, I willingly give my life to this metal demon and —"

(BUT SALIM CAN'T BREATHE ANY MORE)

SCENE 122. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

DOCTOR:

(GROANS, COMING ROUND) Salim..?

JESSICA:

Too late, you've missed him. Stupid idiot threw his life away. But then, I guess he'd had five hundred years' worth of it.

DOCTOR:

That's nothing. Still – five hundred years without the one you love...

JESSICA:

Well, let's see what Scavenger does next. Can't say my hopes are high.

DOCTOR:

I wonder if...? No, doesn't matter. First things first: Jessica, I'd appreciate it if you could help me locate Flip.

JESSICA:

You've got no idea where she is?

DOCTOR:

She undid the first journey she took via teleport – so I'd assume she's somewhere in orbit. Somewhere near the Mandela...

SCENE 123: INT. SCAVENGER

(SILENCE APART FROM BREATHING. ANARKALI AND SALIM TOGETHER AGAIN INSIDE THE SCAVENGER COMPUTER. BOTH ARE ABSORBED SO BOTH ARE SPEAKING NORMALLY. NO BREATHING PROBLEMS.)

ANARKALI:

Did you ever get that cough seen to, my lord?

SALIM:

The Court Priest made me a potion. I drank it looking up at the sky, watching you circling the earth. Every night since I have watched you. A star alone. (ALoud) Scavenger, have you processed my offering?

SCAVENGER:

Flight computer salvaged and integrated. Uploading new instructions.

ANARKALI:

What does that mean, my lord?

SALIM:

I'm sorry, my love. Before I arrived, I programmed my offering with very particular instructions.

SCAVENGER:

Course confirmed. Over-ride impossible.

(F/X SCAVENGER ENGINES KICK IN)

ANARKALI:

Where are we going?

SALIM:

The heart of the sun. We fly into the starlight. We will become starlight.

ANARKALI:

But we will be together.

SALIM:

Forever.

(F/X SCAVENGER ACCELERATES AWAY)

124. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL

(F/X TRACKING NOISES)

DOCTOR:
Well, there goes Scavenger.

JESSICA:
Where's it going, at that speed?

DOCTOR:
Somewhere it won't be coming back from. I hope Salim got what he wanted.

(F/X SPACEGUARD ALARM, AS BEFORE)

JESSICA:
Spaceguard alarm.

DOCTOR:
Has it found her? Has it found Flip?

JESSICA:
No, it's moving too fast, whatever it is...

DOCTOR:
That's a supply drone! That can only be —

(F/X COMMS KICK IN)

JYOTI:
[This is] Supply Drone Kappa Alpha Nine calling I-S-R-A Mission Control. Doctor, are you receiving me?

DOCTOR:
Jyoti Cutler!

(F/X CROSS TO:)

125. INT. SUPPLY DRONE [CONTINUOUS]

DOCTOR

(OVER SPEAKER) Jyoti, what are you doing up there?

JYOTI:

Got suited up and headed out into space on the back of a drone, in case you needed me. It's not like I can end my career twice, is it?

DOCTOR:

I'm sorry.

JYOTI:

I'm doing it for Flip – she saved my life, the least I can do is try to return the favour. I can't see Scavenger. Where's Scavenger?

DOCTOR:

Scavenger's gone, but Flip should still be out there, at the exact same co-ordinates Scavenger snatched her from.

JYOTI:

That's just two clicks away. Hold on, I'm turning around –

(F/X DRONE CHANGING DIRECTION AS WE CUT BACK TO:)

126. INT. ISRA – MISSION CONTROL

JESSICA:

There you go, Doctor – happy endings all round. Salim got Anarkali, I get to blame Salim through the roof for everything that went wrong and it looks like you're getting Flip back.

DOCTOR:

Ms Allaway, I may be an optimist at hearts but please – don't curse things.

(ENTER SECURITY GUY)

SECURITY GUY:

(OFF) Excuse me, ma'am.

JESSICA:

Tell security they can stand down. Situation's over. The saboteur has been identified.

SECURITY GUY:

We know, ma'am.

JESSICA:

So you can put the gun away, can't you?

SECURITY GUY:

You might want to check the news networks first, ma'am.

JESSICA:

Oh, what now-?

(F/X CLICK INTO NEWS REPORT, HEARD OVER MAIN SCREEN)

(F/X FROM SCENE 72:)

SALIM:

Suddenly the whole complex loses power and you arrive. It doesn't take a genius.

JESSICA:

What can I say? I arrange a little power cut, Salvage 2 goes off course, Britain saves the day. It was all in the contract [...]

MELISSA [TV REPORTER]:

The British government has so far refused to comment on the content of the leaked recording, but surely all eyes now are on the drama unfolding in Mission – [Control.]

(F/X CUT NEWS TRANSMISSION)

SECURITY GUY:

Come with me, please, ma'am. I'm under instructions to turn you over to the Indian authorities.

JESSICA:

I'm being thrown to the wolves, am I?

SECURITY GUY:

British Government's made a deal. India agrees you acted alone and Britain surrenders contract rights to the Salvage technology.

DOCTOR:

I'm sorry, Ms Allaway. You made your bed...

JESSICA:

Doctor, take me somewhere in your blue box. Please. Please.

(PAUSE. WE THINK HE MIGHT SAY 'YES')

I can pay you.

DOCTOR:

I'm afraid I'm not for hire.

SECURITY GUY:

Now, please, ma'am.

JESSICA:

Then this is goodbye. I hope you get your happy ending, at least.

(F/X AS JESSICA AND SECURITY GUY EXIT:)

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKERS) Doctor! Doctor, are you receiving me?

DOCTOR:

(INTO MIC) Jyoti! Can you see her? Can you see Flip?

(F/X CROSS TO:)

127. INT. SUPPLY DRONE [CONTINUOUS]

JYOTI:

Negative. I know I'm at the right spot, though. I can see my camera floating in space, where I left it – you remember, I had a camera?

DOCTOR:

Then where is she? Where's Flip?

JYOTI:

I'm so close to it, I can see its lights are on. It's still transmitting.

128. INT. ISRA — MISSION CONTROL [CONTINUOUS]

DOCTOR:

(REALISATION) The cloud back-up! All this time, it's been uploading to the cloud!

JYOTI:

(OVER SPEAKER) Is it worth checking, you think, to see if it caught her?

DOCTOR:

(FX: FURIOUS TYPING) Already on it, Jyoti! That's the data stream there... (F/X REWINDING NOISES) Back... let's say, twenty minutes? And... play.

(NB: FLIP HELMETED THROUGHOUT)

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) [it is] cold out here. Colder than the icy ice caves of Iceland.

DOCTOR:

There she is! There's Flip!

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Okay, so. Floating in space. Not my scene. If you're getting this, Doctor, floating in space is not my scene. That's why I'm not planning on sticking a — oh, look, there's India! Hello, India! I'm waving at a country, how mad is that?

It's a great view, though. Gotta admit, it is a great view. I knew, Doctor, when you took me to the Mandela; I knew what that was all about. Show me the Earth, make me feel homesick; make me feel like maybe the holiday's over, and it's time I went home.

DOCTOR:

No, no. That wasn't it at all —

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) Ohh, don't deny it. I can hear you, denying it. It's alright, I get it, you want to move on. You want to go off and find your friend Peri. Don't want a daft liability like me, having accidents and incidents and making things worse all the time.

Look, thing is, I can't hang around here waiting for you to find me. Only gonna run out of air or depressurise or something. Lucky for me, I'm wearing the suit, the Baumgartner suit, with these sort of thrusters in the boots, that's how it works. You jump. Jump to Earth. I'm guessing people don't usually jump from as high as this, but they jump all the same.

DOCTOR:

From the edge of space, maybe, not from actual space! ('IS SHE MAD?') Fl-i-i-p!

FLIP:

(OVER SPEAKER) I know, I know, it's a bit of a risk, I don't blame you for telling me off. And I promise, really promise, that if I land safely I am never, never ever, no really, never gonna do anything as daft as this again. I'm going back to Freshgoods, back to me Mum and yeah, back to Jared too, I expect.

Can't think of anything else to say, really.

Alright, mind made up. I'm doing this. Thrusters to burn.

(F/X BOOT THRUSTERS BURNING OFF)

Okay, turning myself around. Head-first – ooh, scary. Gotta let the camera go now, so.. see you around, Doctor. On the ground, I hope.

...Alright, here goes nothing. (CAMERA DRIFTING AWAY) India or bust, Doctor...! (JUMPS)

(F/X THRUSTERS FADE AWAY, TO SILENCE)

DOCTOR:

(AGHAST) Flip...

129. EXT. SPACE.

FLIP:

(BREATHING IN ANTICIPATION, THEN LAUNCHES HERSELF DOWN)
Wuuuuuuuaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaargh!

CRASH IN CLOSING THEME.